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VOL. XXVIII.—No. 331. MELBOURNE: JULY 21st, 1913. [SUBSCRIPTION: 10/- PER ANNUM POST FREE.

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THE AUSTRALASIAN
Journal of Pharmacy
With which is Incorporated
The Australasian Chemist and Druggist.
REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE, MELBOURNE, FOR TRANSMISSION BY POST AS A NEWSPAPER.

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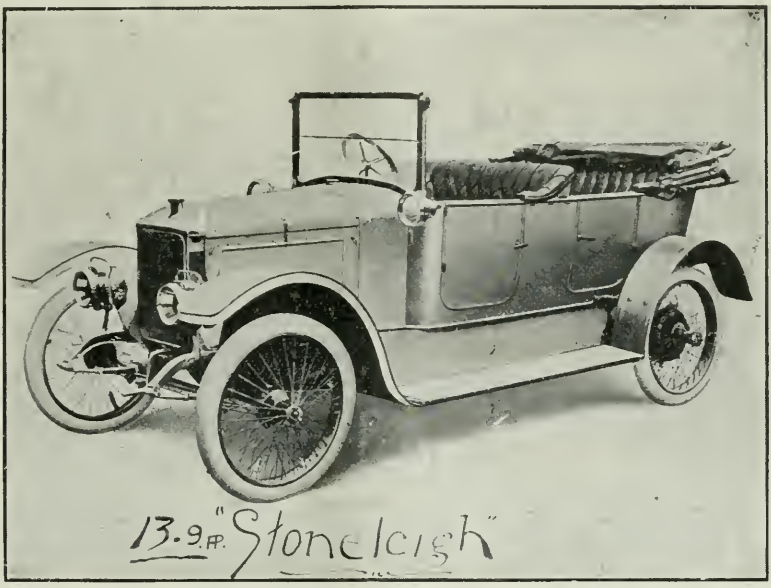

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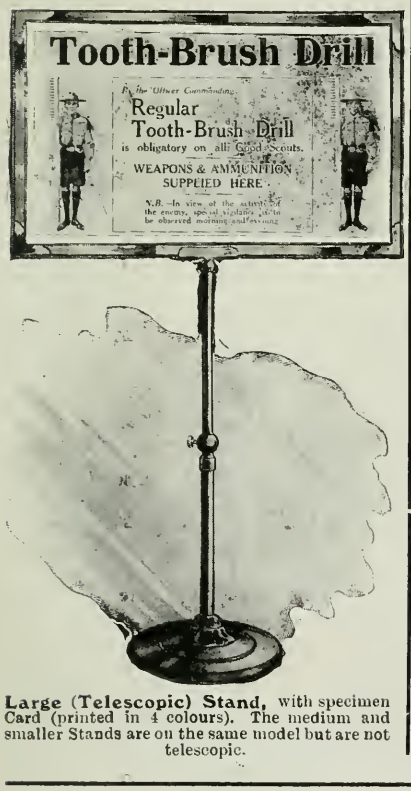

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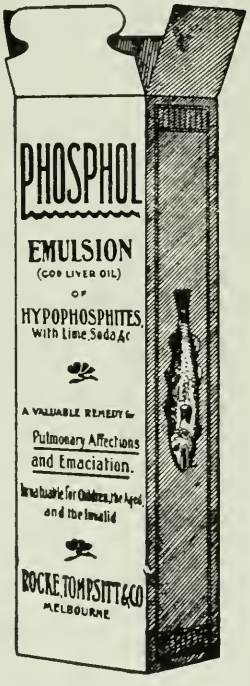

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Reprinted from "Australasian Pharmaceutical Notes and News," 1st. July, 1913.

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THE AUSTRALASIAN

Journal of Pharmacy.

[REGISTERED UNDER COPYRIGHT ACT].

No. 331 JULY 21ST, 1913. Vol. XXVIII.

Special Article.

National Insurance Problems. Some Points for Consideration.

Opinions, mostly based on English experience, are rapidly being formed by Australian pharmacists as to the effect on the craft of Mr. Lloyd George's legislation. The weight of these, and especially those voiced in published papers on the subject, seems to be that pharmacy has gained by the passing of the Act.

It would be a pity if these impressions were allowed to develop without a proper statement of the position from the Australian standpoint.

Only a full and adequate realisation of the great divergence between British and Australian social conditions and a clear understanding of the relative positions of the Australian and the British pharmacist, makes it possible to estimate what the effect of similar legislation would be in the Commonwealth.

Hundreds of pharmacists in Great Britain, before the Insurance Act was passed, were eking out a bare existence. Their legitimate function, dispensing, was absorbed by the cheap doctor. At the other end stood the huge "chain" store, and between the two pharmacy to many resolved itself into a miserable struggle for mere existence. To this class, National Insurance dispensing has come

as a veritable God-send, and paens of praise arose as to the wonderful benefits accruing to the craft under the new era.

But the pharmacist already doing a fair business has a different story to tell. To him this "new era" has brought greater work at startlingly reduced rates, longer hours, and a marked falling off in his ordinary dispensing, the sale of patent medicines and his own proprietaries. He has found that his clerical work has considerably increased, in many cases his staff has had to be augmented, and altogether he feels (as one of the speakers at the annual meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society pointed out) very like the man who has lost a shilling and found sixpence!

How different is the position in Australia!

(1) For the greater part pharmacists already do nearly all the dispensing. Doctors generally recognise that it is the pharmacist's function to dispense. This great gain to the British chemist, the separation of prescribing and dispensing, has therefore very little application to Australian conditions. Where there is no chemist, the doctor will still have to dispense.

(2) Dispensing prices are on a higher level, and it is generally admitted that more "patents" are sold proportionately in Australia than in Great Britain.

(3) Friendly Societies' dispensaries already do the greater portion of the lower-priced dispensing for those who are likely to come under any scheme of national insurance.

(4) The aggregation of so great a proportion of the population in a few large cities and the sparse settlement over the remaining huge area bring two diverse elements into calculation.

(5) A higher general standard of living, better wages, and more favourable health conditions, have not only reduced the amount of sickness in Australia, but have also greatly lowered the mortality rate.

(6) Public hospitals and State sanatoria cater not alone for the sick poor, but frequently for those who are really able to afford to pay for treatment.

(7) It is acknowledged that the scheme is going to cost more per insured to put into operation in Australia. (The British cost is already £30,000,000 per annum.)

These altered conditions, therefore, call for special treatment. For one thing, the remuneration to be paid to doctor and pharmacist will have to be on a higher basis than in England. This, in its turn, will increase the medical rates for lodges. How will this affect the Friendly Societies? If National Insurance is going to offer other social benefits (unemployment, accident, pensions, invalidity, maternity, etc.), then people will not require to become members of lodges. The State will, in fact, do all (and more) than the Friendly Societies do at present. And it will probably do it better and on more equitable terms. Further, national health insurance to be effective must carry with it the "free choice" of doctor and pharmacist. This was the great cleavage line in the British legislation. The Friendly Societies fought desperately against this principle. Mr. Lloyd George was convinced that Friendly Society control of medical benefits would be fatal to his Bill. The House of Commons almost unanimously endorsed that opinion. Indeed, in Great Britain any return to the old regime is now regarded as outside the range of practical politics.

This phase is so important that it demands further amplification. The basis of Friendly Society insurance is the restricted choice of medical advice. The lodge member must choose between one or two doctors (not always the best), and if he is not satisfied with the treatment, he must go elsewhere and pay ordinary rates. With National Insurance, the first principle is the "free choice" of both doctor and chemist. This gives the insured person all the protection he needs. It is essentially democratic. The patient may consult whom he pleases, assuming, of course, the doctor he wishes to see is on the Insurance panel. If he is away from home, he need not return to consult his lodge doctor—he simply goes to the nearest insurance doctor and asks for his advice. How many patients go to dispensaries from choice? Under equal conditions, the pharmacist in business will get the bulk of the dispensing.

From the medical man's standpoint (and the pharmacist's also), National Insurance takes out of the hands of Friendly Societies the power to "bargain" with individual doctors and chemists. The STATE fixes the rate of payment. This is another consideration in favour of the scheme.

These are points it is well to bear in mind before entering into any defensive or offensive alliances. As to the shaping of the necessary legislation, pharmacists will have very little say. Indeed, the health part of such legislation is the smallest. The administrative and financial aspects are the important factors of the scheme. What is it going to cost? Who is going to pay for it? And what ratio will the State, the employer and the insured respectively contribute?

All that pharmacists can hope for is—

(1) Representation on the Administrative Committees.

(2) Adequate payment under a "Tariff." (Opposition to a "per capita" system goes without saying.)

In these directions pharmaceutical thought and action will probably be focussed.

But policy may dictate throwing weight and influence in the direction of helping kindred bodies. Already the hint has been thrown out in influential centres of a working alliance between doctors, dentists and pharmacists. On the other hand, it has been suggested that it would be an advantage to co-operate with the Friendly Societies.

As a final consideration (and it is here that the working alliance indicated may prove most effective) the possibility of the projected legislation being defeated must not be lost sight of.

There are many arguments against the proposed scheme. Thoughtful men see grave difficulties and dangers in its national effect on health and character. "The Recoil against the German Social Policy" was the subject of an article in a recent number of the "Spectator," and the results disclosed there are certainly not reassuring. Secondly, seeing that Australian conditions are so different to older settled countries, and there are so many important national undertakings which cannot be gone on with owing to lack of money, is this National Insurance scheme going to be worth the outlay? On Mr. Lloyd George's lines it is estimated by Mr. A. M. Laughton, Government Statist, that National Insurance in Australia will cost about £3,000,000, and the State's proportion of this would be from three-quarters to a million pounds per annum. Thirdly, can the Commonwealth Parliament adequately deal with the matter under the present limitations of the Constitution? Writers are silent on this point, but there is reason to believe that doubts exist as to how far such legislation could be made to apply. In the opinion of constitutional authorities such legislation could have very limited scope indeed. There are many grave and important problems to be considered before the scheme is proceeded with, and probably the best thing would be the appointment of a Royal Commission to consider the proposal from every aspect —political, social and economic.

These ideas are not advanced by the writer dogmatically, but with a view of suggesting definite lines of thought. In the multitude of minds there is wisdom, and it may be that the ground traversed in this article may induce others to step into the arena and give their fellow-pharmacists the benefit of their experience and advice.

C.L.B.

British News.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

London,

June, 1913.

DRUG TRADE APPEAL FUND.

The trustees of the above fund met the subscribers on May 16, under the presidency of Mr. Chas. Umney, who moved the adoption of the annual report. The chief point dealt with was the working of the Shops Act with regard to the conditions of early closing, and the feeling of the meeting was quite unanimous that a suitable appeal case along the lines mentioned in the annual report should be undertaken as soon as possible, but that the trustees should carefully select the case from various points of view, so that there might be the best possible chance for the appeal being successful.

Mr. Allen crystallised this feeling by moving the following resolution:—

"That it be an instruction to the trustees to look with particular care on the operation of the Shops Act, especially as regards half-day orders."

This was seconded and carried unanimously, as was also the adoption of the annual report.

The case to be appealed against is the decision of a magistrate that the illness for

which a medicine is dispensed must be a present illness. In the opinion of the trustees, it is important that a High Court decision should be taken on this point. The fund now amounts to £692, mostly invested in Consols, and the income for the year was £17.

ASSISTANT DISPENSERS TO PHARMACISTS.

At the meeting of the Executive Committee of the General Medical Council on May 26, a communication from the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain relative to the undertaking given by the Society in the House of Commons in August, 1911, when the National Health Insurance Bill was under consideration, and asking the co-operation of the General Medical Council, was considered. The communication was as follows:—

"The Parliamentary Committee reports that it has taken into careful consideration the undertaking given on behalf of the Society by Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P., in the House of Commons on August 2, 1911, to establish a qualification to act as an assistant dispenser to a pharmacist, and in doing so would seek the support of the General Medical Council, the Society of Apothecaries, and the War Office.

"The Committee is of opinion that a Bill should be drafted forthwith embodying the following objects:—

"1. The setting up of a Register of Assistant Dispensers.

"2. Providing for the inclusion in that Register of:

(*a*) Persons who for three years immediately prior to December 16, 1911, have acted as dispensers to a duly registered medical practitioner or to a public institution.

(*b*) Persons who for three years immediately prior to December 16, 1911, have acted as dispensers to a duly registered chemist and druggist.

(*c*) Persons who are certified assistants to an apothecary in accordance with Section 17 of the Apothecaries Act, 1815, or who hold the rank of sergeant in the Army and are certified Army compounders. Evidence of three years' service in the dispensing of medicines to be given in each case.

(*d*) Persons who produce evidence of three years' service in the dispensing of medicines and who pass an examination referred to hereunder as the Assistants' Examination.

"3. Providing for a time limit during which persons in Class (a) and (b) may be registered.

"4. Providing for an elementary examination in prescription reading, posology, and pharmacy, to be called the Assistants' Examination.

"5. Providing for a registration fee of one guinea, payable by persons eligible for registration without examination.

"6. Providing that registered assistant dispensers may, if they produce satisfactory evidence of preliminary education and of having undergone such courses of systematic study as may from time to time be prescribed, be admitted as candidates for the examination qualifying for registration under the Pharmacy Acts as a chemist and druggist.

"The Committee directed that steps should be taken to bring to the notice of the General Medical Council, the War Office, and the Society of Apothecaries the foregoing suggestions for a draft Bill at the earliest possible moment, and to invite the co-operation of those bodies in connection therewith.

(Signed) C. B. ALLEN, President.
EDMUND WHITE, Vice-President."

The Executive Committee resolved: "That the Pharmaceutical Society be informed that the Committee raises no objection to the framing of a Bill on the lines suggested, but would be glad to see a copy of the Bill when drafted."

A CASE OF ASPIRIN POISONING.

At the present time aspirin is probably more frequently employed than any other medicinal substance. Drs. James Lindsay and A. Bruce Leckie, resident medical officers of the Royal Mineral Hospital, Bath, in a recent contribution to the *British Medical Journal*, state that the frequency with which it has been given in moderate and large doses in varying painful conditions resulting from widely divergent etiological factors without untoward results has earned for it a reputation not only as an efficacious but also as a safe remedy.

Only a few cases have been published in which its administration has been followed by toxic symptoms, and the writers until the present case had never seen any untoward symptoms from its use, although they have administered this drug to many hundreds of patients.

The patient was a painter aged 29 who, when in the Royal Mineral Water Hospital one day, complained of a slight cold, and at 7 p.m. was given 10 grains of aspirin. Just previously he had taken a glass of milk. An hour and a half later he felt a burning pain in his epigastrium, and his right eyelids began to swell. The swelling then quickly spread over the left eyelids, the face, lips, tongue and pharynx. The roof of his mouth "felt dry," his speech became thick, and urticarial blotches appeared over his chest and arms. At the end of three hours from the time of taking the aspirin he could see out of the right eye only with difficulty. There was no dyspnoea. He experienced some discomfort from the swelling of the face, and presented a very bloated appearance. Next morning, that is, fifteen hours after the administration of the drug, the only sign remaining consisted of some puffiness of the eyelids, which did not entirely disappear until the fourth day.

This case shows that alarming symptoms may follow moderate or even small doses of aspirin, and corresponds with those described by Barnett, Abercromby and Brown. More severe symptoms, however, such as violent palpitations, feeble rapid pulse, dark green urine, and gradually approaching unconsciousness, have also been described. The onset in one of such cases occurred in only from fifteen to twenty minutes after administration.

The fact that the patient in our case had had a glass of milk previous to taking the aspirin may possibly have had some bearing on the case, because alkaline substances decompose aspirin with liberation of salicylic acid, which produces the toxic phenomena. At the same time, idiosyncrasy doubtless plays an important role.

We are of opinion that aspirin should be taken on an empty stomach, and unaccompanied by anything except water. It is said that one grain of powdered ergot, owing to its antagonistic action, will prevent symptoms of poisoning.

CHEMICAL TRADE SECTION.

A meeting of the Chemical Trade Section of the London Chamber of Commerce was held on May 29, Mr. J. C. Umney in the chair. The chairman reported on the action taken since last meeting with regard to (1) evidence offered before the Joint Select Committee on gas authorities; (2) sale of poisonous substances; (3) evidence given before the Dominions Royal Commission by the chairman and other representatives of the section. With regard to the sale of poisonous substances, the chairman explained that in view of alterations ensuing upon Orders in Council arising out of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908, some misunderstanding appeared to exist as to the exact position, and a memorandum bearing on the subject was prepared and circulated to members asking for information. With regard to the question of the manufacture and storage of spirituous preparations, the chairman stated that the Committee had arrived at the conclusion that if a concession allowing of manufacture and storage in bond were granted, regulations as to supervision, etc., might be so onerous as to outweigh the advantages, and it would be preferable to leave the matter in abeyance for the present. The meeting then proceeded to consider whether, in view of the composite membership of the chemical section, it is desirable that it should be divided into three sub-sections for dealing separately with matters affecting distinct interests, and thus rendering the organisation of the section more effective. After discussion it was decided to form the following sub-divisions:—

(1) Chemical manufactures, chemical brokers.

(2) Drug and pharmacy.

(3) Analytical and consulting chemists.

A sub-committee was appointed to allocate members to the various divisions.

LOOSE GLASS IN MEDICINE BOTTLES.

Mr. W. Johnston, Secretary Chemists' Defence Association, in an article published in the *Anti-Cutting Record* several years ago, called attention to the danger of supplying medicine in bottles containing splinters or fine scales of glass. As this trouble has again cropped up in a practical form, the Directors of the C.D.A. have drawn attention to it once more. They state that in cases where glass is introduced into a medicine such as a powder, through inadvertent and unconscious chipping of the neck of the bottle, no amount of foresight can prevent it, but in regard to new bottles, every one should be very carefully scrutinised to see that no flakes of glass are left adhering to the sides or bottom after

washing. This liability to adhere is more particularly noticeable in the case of phials. When these are tall and narrow, the little sheets of glass, which, although thin as tissue paper, sometimes stretch from side to side of the bottle, are difficult to dislodge by ordinary washing where no brush is used. These flakes of glass, overlooked in this way, have been known to afterwards get into a patient's throat and stomach and to cause serious trouble and heavy expense to the chemist who dispensed the medicine.

GENERAL.

Mr. Richard Bremridge has retired from the Pharmaceutical Society's staff after a service of 45 years.

Mr. Edmund White, B.Sc., F.I.C., has been elected President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. Mr. A. S. Campkin, Cambridge, has been elected Vice-President.

Central Pharmacy Suggested.—The coroner for Manchester, in a recent case, stated that provision should be made on Sundays for the keeping open all day of some central pharmacy for the dispensing of urgent medicines.

The "Hanbury" Medallist, 1913.—Dr. Frederick B. Power, Ph.D., LL.D., has been awarded the "Hanbury Medal" for 1913. Dr. Power is well known as the Director of the Wellcome Research Laboratories.

Epsom Salts Poisoning.—A case has just been reported of death from an overdose of Epsom Salts. The analyst found 345 grains of magnesium sulphate in the intestines of the deceased girl. It was estimated that over 4 ounces of the drug had been taken.

South African P.A.T.A.—This association, which was recently formed, has decided that only articles which show a minimum profit of 15 per cent. on landed cost to the wholesaler and at least 25 per cent. on returns to the retail vendor will be placed on the Protected List.

Chemist' Jury Service.—The Departmental Committee on Jury Service has recommended that "all registered chemists and druggists, if actually practising," should be exempted from jury service. Under the present law, only pharmaceutical chemists (major examination) are exempted.

National Insurance Evils.—The speakers at the 72nd annual meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, which was held in London on May 21, was notable for the expressions of disapproval at the working of the National Insurance Act. The following extracts from some of the speeches may give some food for reflection to your readers:—"The Act is the greatest curse to pharmacists which could possibly have existed. . . . The insurance dispensing is a wicked thing, no one is being paid properly. . . . Under the Act the chemist is in the position of the man who has dropped a shilling and found sixpence." . . . In replying to these outbursts of feeling the vice-president counselled patience, and promised some alleviation of the evils complained of in the near future.

A Pharmacist on the Insurance Act.—A retail chemist writes that the National Insurance Act "has considerably reduced my takings in the retail, own preparations, and counter-prescribing, and apparently destroyed the personality I once had. My takings have decreased by £7 to £8 weekly, and the only recompense I get is about £3 5s. from Insurance work. Hours of business are increased, and no half-holiday or free Sunday; in fact, one is never done, and although one puts in twelve to sixteen hours more weekly, one's income has had a great set-back. It seems to me I have become a slave to the medicoes and public benefactors to the nation. The Act may be welcome to some struggling chemists who formerly had little to do, but even they must find it a great tie. The day of the snug and comfortably worked business is gone. Again, if we are to be subjected to such meagre remuneration, it is going to have a very detrimental effect (in the near future) on the assistants' salaries. Just now assistants are at a premium, but matters will soon level themselves, and then?"

Mr. W. J. Uglow Woolcock has been appointed secretary and registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain at a salary of £600 a year. Mr. Uglow Woolcock is a pharmacist and barrister at law. He is a man of conspicuous ability, and is in his 35th year. A born diplomat, an able speaker, a master of political detail and legal technicality, Mr. Woolcock is bound

to become a live force in pharmaceutical circles at Bloomsbury Square. To his personality, untiring energy and force of character must be greatly attributed the new spirit of enthusiasm and unity which has recently permeated British Pharmacy, and the craft is indeed fortunate in securing as its official head an organiser of such high attainments and a man in whom honour and integrity are prominent characteristics.

The New B.P.—The Pharmacopoeia Committee reported on May 30 that six sections of the draft text of the new work have been prepared and are undergoing revision. The greater part of the work was ready for the press. No indication as to the probable date of publication of the new edition has yet been given.

Mr. G. Stephenson, assistant director of Public Prosecutions, in his evidence before the Select Committee on Patent Medicines, expressed the opinion on June 5th, in evidence, that the declaration of the formula would be of very little service unless the statement was made in popular as distinct from technical language. If the article contained opium it might be of some value to state the fact on the label, but even then he did not know whether such declaration would prevent persons from purchasing it.

Officers of the Pharmaceutical Society.—The following officers were re-appointed at the June meeting of the Council:—Assistant-Secretary, Mr. A. J. Chater; Curator, Mr. E. M. Holmes; Editor, Mr. John Humphrey; Assistant-Secretary, in Scotland, Mr. J. Rutherford Hill; Parliamentary Secretary, Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P. The Council discussed the desirability of separating the offices of Secretary and Registrar, but no definite decision was arrived at.

Powdered Liquorice Root and Powdered Senna, as used in commerce, are frequently of an inferior quality. Professor Greenish and Miss Dorothy Bartlett (Redwood Research scholar) have been conducting a series of investigations into these drugs in the Pharmaceutical Research Laboratory, and they advise pharmacists to be careful in buying these drugs, and to make sure that they are being supplied with the proper quality, as their inquiries show that, whilst adulteration is not frequent, many of the samples examined were of inferior quality.

American Notes.

THE DEADLY BICHLORIDE TABLET.

Under the above title the editor of the *Practical Druggist* alludes to the fact that "hundreds of people die annually by swallowing bichloride tablets or a solution of the same," and makes some very pertinent suggestions for the distinguishing of such tablets by means of colour, shape, character of packages, etc. The regulations which seem to him most effective are those prescribed by the German Pharmacopœia, namely, that they shall be composed of equal parts of bichloride and sodium chloride, coloured bright red with an aniline dye, cylindrical in shape, twice as long as thick, each tablet wrapped in black paper bearing the word poison in white letters, and the amount of bichloride, and be dispensed in glass bottles which are also to be labelled poison.

GROWTH OF THE HEROIN HABIT.

The Syracuse Retail Druggists' Association has drafted an ordinance to suppress the heroin evil which has been submitted to the city council. Members of the association declare that the growth of the heroin habit in Syracuse during the last eighteen months has been appalling. Habitues who found that police surveillance made it very difficult to secure opium, morphine and cocaine, soon learned that heroin could be easily obtained. No prescription is necessary. As a result they began using this drug, and the habit grew by leaps and bounds. It started in the poorer districts, but soon spread to the better portions of the city. Heroin had formerly been used in cases of bronchial trouble, but the demand for it had not been heavy. "Heroin tablets are now being purchased in hundred lots," said one pharmacist, "and the habit is spreading throughout the city. No one realises the extent of the use of this drug except the physicians and the retail druggists. Young men who want to brace up in order to go to work are dosed with heroin. They usually try the dose a second time and a third, but soon they become habitual users. Young women up late at night use the drug once or twice and then become addicted to it."

IMPORTANT LEGAL DECISION.

The United States Supreme Court has unanimously given an interpretation of the

Federal Food and Drugs Act, the significance of which is very important. The question at issue was whether a label conforming to the Federal, but not to the State law, should be removed and replaced by a fresh label conforming to the State law before the retailer, who was also the importer, could lawfully sell the goods. The Court has decided that in this case the offering or exposing for sale of these goods by the importer is a part of Interstate commerce, and comes within the purview of the Federal Food and Drugs Act. The points established by the Supreme Court are as follow:—

"1. Articles remaining in the possession of the importer, received by him in interstate commerce, are within interstate commerce until sold by him and are, until such sale, subject to the Federal act. It makes no difference whether the retail containers have been taken out of the packing box by the importer or not. It is sufficient if the articles remain *unsold* in the hands of the importer. The importer may offer or expose for sale and sell the articles and the State law cannot interfere, if the articles conform to the Federal law. The article would only be divested of its interstate character *after the first sale by the importer within the State into which it was imported*. Therefore, as in the case decided, a shipment (conforming to the Federal law) in interstate commerce to the retailer who re-sells or offers for sale to the consumer is protected by and subject to the Federal act and the State law cannot interfere with such sale or offering for sale by the retailer.

"2. The immediate container of the article intended for consumption by the public is the container which must bear the required labelling statements. The brands regulated are on the packages intended to reach the purchaser or consumer. As the court well remarks—'This is the only practical or sensible construction of the act.' The label is the means of vindication or the basis of punishment in determining the character of the interstate shipment dealt with by Congress. To limit these requirements to the outside packing box 'would render the act nugatory and its provisions wholly inadequate to accomplish the purposes for which it was passed.'

"3. The Court finally determines that the purpose of the Federal law is to protect the consumer. 'The object of the statute is to prevent the misuse of the facilities of interstate commerce *in conveying to and placing before the consumer* misbranded and adulterated articles of medicine or food." The making certain of the purpose of the Federal law (says the *Journal of the American Pharmaceutical Association*) is significant in view of the fact that one of the arguments insistently advanced against uniformity of the National and State laws is that the purposes of the National and State laws respectively are separate and distinct. *The purpose, in each instance, is the same—to protect the consumer.*"

THE PHARMACIST'S RESPONSIBILITY.

The New York Appeal Court has just given a decision in a case which has been in litigation since 1905. This decision fixes the responsibility of a pharmacist when selling medicines bearing his name and labelled incorrectly.

In this case a firm sold a box of tablets named "Kascara Kathartics," "purely vegetable." The customer, who took them as directed, developed mercurial salivation, and was ill for two months. Analysis showed in each tablet 4-5 of a grain of calomel. After a number of trials and appeals the court has granted the plaintiff damage of $2,000 and costs.

In dealing with the item of "negligence" in the case the court gave a clear definition of the term "ordinary care" when applied to a druggist as follows:

"The negligence which must be established to render a druggist liable in such a case as this is measured by his duty, and while this is only to exercise ordinary care, the phrase 'ordinary care' in reference to the business of a druggist must be held to signify the highest practical degree of thoughtfulness and vigilance, and the exact and reliable safeguards consistent with the reasonable conduct of the business in order that human life may not constantly be exposed to the danger flowing from the substitution of deadly poisons for harmless medicines."

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Journal of Pharmacy,

Published on the 20th of each Month
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Editorial.

Retirement of Mr. Richard Bremridge.

The name of Bremridge is so well known and respected throughout the pharmaceutical world that the news which arrived by the English mail of July 7 announcing Mr. Richard Bremridge's retirement from the secretaryship of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain after 45 years' service came as a shock to Australian pharmacists.

At the June meeting of the Council Mr. Bremridge forwarded the following characteristic letter to the President of that body:—

May 28, 1913.

Dear Mr. President,—

With great regret I have to ask you to be so good as to convey to the Council the intimation that I am not asking reappointment as Secretary and Registrar of the Society.

I have had the honour of serving the Society for forty-five years, having come in immediately after the passing of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, and during that period the duties of my office have increased enormously in volume and complexity, and they are every year becoming more onerous.

In consideration of these circumstances, I have reluctantly arrived at the conclusion that the time has come when I should be doing the Society a better service by vacating my office in favour of a younger man than by continuing to hold it.

I desire to express my gratitude for the generous consideration and the innumerable kindnesses that I have received during my long tenure of office from the Presidents, Vice-Presidents, and Councils under whom I have served, as well as from my colleagues the Divisional Secretaries, and many other members of the Society. In the course of my official relations with these gentlemen I have happily formed very many friendships, which I hope I may retain to the end of my days.

I am thankful for my good fortune in having been zealously and most loyally served by my own immediate staff, some of whom have been very closely associated with me for the greater part of my official life. It would be impossible to avoid feeling deeply the severance from so many old familiar friends, but I trust I may be permitted from time to time to demonstrate my continuing interest in the Society's work by occasionally visiting my former fellow-workers.

Permit me to express the hope and belief that the Society will continue to prosper, and that all who are engaged in directing its affairs or in supporting it may share in that prosperity.

I am, dear Mr. President,
Yours faithfully,
(Signed) RICHARD BREMRIDGE.

The earnest expressions of appreciation which came from every member of the Council as to Mr. Bremridge's ability and assiduity in the discharge of his multifarious duties, and his uniform courtesy to all with whom he came into contact, was a well-earned tribute to a useful and honourable career. The Council, after passing a resolution regretting his retirement, and expressing the hope that he might long enjoy a comfortable and much-deserved leisure, decided to suitably provide for his future in a substantial manner out of the Society's funds.

The three weekly pharmaceutical journals all publish warm, appreciative notices of Mr. Bremridge's life work. One brief extract from the official organ,

"The Pharmaceutical Journal," may be quoted as embodying the general feeling of regret experienced by his rtirment:—

Although not a pharmacist, the Society could not have had a more loyal or better informed executive officer than Mr. Richard Bremridge, and if he needed any testimonial to the success of his work he could point to the host of friends who join in regretting his retirement, and at the same time in wishing him many years of health to enjoy his well-earned rest. If one were asked to say what had been the keynote of his official life the reply would be the simple statement that he has always put the Pharmaceutical Society's interests in the forefront.

To these cordial and spontaneous sentiments we heartily subscribe, because Mr. Bremridge always found time to take a deep personal interest in Australian pharmaceutical affairs, and many of his letters to-day are treasured in the archives of the various Pharmacy Boards on this side of the world as mementoes of a man who always combined business with a charming courtesy of manner, whose felicity of expression always made his letters a delight to read, and to whom loyalty and duty were the leading characteristics of a long and honourable career.

The Month.

Secret Commissions.

The New South Wales branch of the B.M.A. has issued the following memorandum to its members:—"In reference to a letter, dated 27th May, 1913, addressed to members of the medical profession by a manufacturer and vendor of artificial limbs and orthopaedic appliances, and containing the following words, namely: 'When a doctor influences a patient to place an order in my hands, he is entitled to a fee of ten per cent. of the price of the limb,' the Council desires that members shall be reminded that the acceptance of any such commission is contrary to the rules of the profession and highly reprehensible."

The Real Purpose of Medical Acts.

The *raison d'etre* of Medical Acts, according to the *Australasian Medical Gazette*, is to protect the public against unqualified or imperfectly qualified individuals, rather than to protect the profession from unqualified rivals. According to the *Gazette*, the attempted treatment of disease by unqualified men tends to increase the doctor's work, as in the end the disappointed patient is forced to seek medical advice. From a medical man's standpoint, therefore, the position is not one to complain at. The public, however, may suffer severely, and that being the case it is essential that the fullest investigaion should be made by the courts in every instance in which a *prima facie* case is made out. Adding to this it might be pointed out that the main purpose of the Pharmacy and Poisons Act is directed towards the same end, namely, the protection of the public, and, generally speaking, it must be acknowledged that the various Boards entrusted with the administration of these laws carry out their duties with this object primarily in view. When attempts have been made in the direction of straining the law for the benefit of pharmacists, the Legislature has frequently stepped in and modified the particular provisions under which action was taken.

The Kindred Professions.

Dr. L. Henry, Collins-street, Melbourne, in a recent article voiced the opinions of a number of medical men in urging greater attention to organisation work and a closer connection between the members of the various branches of medicine. After dealing with purely medical matters, he goes on to say:—

"It is not unlikely that we may be very shortly threatened with the introduction of a National Insurance Act, and it is even rumoured that a Commonwealth medical official has been entrusted with the duty to familiarise himself with the scheme. It behoves us, therefore, to be vigilant and prepared, and not to be caught napping. Neither in the State nor in the Commonwealth Parliament have we a representative, and it is a matter of vital urgency that we should organise and select a representative who could voice the opinions of the profession. In co-operation with the kindred professions whose interests are in sympathy with our own, we should be able to raise an effective influence which would be a tower of strength in the coming deliberations."

Dr. Henry is to be congratulated on his admirable presentment of the case. All the branches of the profession have much in common from a defence point of view. They

are all fulfilling important public functions. They are all interested in the mutual adjustment of difficulties arising in actual practice between the various bodies. And last, but possibly the most vital point, they possess a common bond in resisting the demands and pretensions of unqualified practitioners and in discouraging in every way possible the illegitimate practices from which no division of the healing act is entirely free.

Medical Organisation Conference.

Our medical friends are beginning to appreciate the supreme value of effective organisation. A conference was recently held in Melbourne, and it was decided to increase the number of divisions of the British Medical Association. At present divisions exist at Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong and the Border towns. It is now proposed to arrange for new centres at Warrnambool, Hamilton, Sale, Ararat, Maryborough and the Goulburn Valley. Each division has its own officers, committee and one member as representative on the Central Council. It is recognised by the central executive, of which Dr. R. H. Fetherston is the secretary, that the form of sub-division suggested is essential if the profession is to be able to exert its full strength. The same principles are being applied to pharmacy. To complete the work it seems eminently desirable that friendly relations should be established in the centres mentioned between the medical divisions and the local pharmaceutical associations. With this end in view country pharmacists might form themselves into district associations with proper officers and regular periods for holding general meetings of their members.

Reconstitution of The Board of Health.

Preparations for amending the present Health Act are being pushed forward by the chairman (Dr. Edward Robertson). Amongst the projected reforms is the creation of an expert Advisory Board to assist the central authorities in dealing with matters requiring a technical knowledge and experience. In dealing with the building regulations, for instance, the advice of an architect has often been felt to be desirable, and in other functions which the Board has to fulfil the services of experts in their particular departments might often, with advantage, be called into requisition. It would certainly seem that if this Advisory Committee is constituted one or two places might appropriately be reserved for representative pharmacists, the benefit of whose assistance the Board would be able to avail itself in certain portions of its administrative work.

Registration of Opticians in Victoria.

As mentioned in our last issue, a deputation from the Victorian Optical Association waited during the month on the Acting-Premier, requesting the appointment of a Board to regulate the practice of sight testing opticians. The "Australasian Medical Gazette," commenting on this, states:—"We learn that as a result of this action, a draft bill has been prepared for submission to the incoming Parliament. The bill provides for the registration of all persons practising measuring of the refraction of the eye and the adaptation of lenses for aiding defective sight, but will not apply to any legally qualified medical practitioner. The bill will not confer any title on persons registered under it, but will prohibit any unqualified person from practising in sight testing. On the passing of the bill into law a board, to be called the Opticians' Board of Registration, will be constituted, to consist of five persons, to be appointed by the Governor in Council from a list of names submitted by the Victorian Optical Association. Although it is not proposed to confer any title on any person registered by this Board, yet there can be no doubt that opticians thus recognised will not be slow to advertise the fact that they are 'registered,' and this will inevitably lead the ignorant public to suppose that these persons are in some way 'qualified' to treat cases of defective eyesight, and to supply appropriate spectacles. We sincerely hope that the Victorian Branch of the British Medical Association will be enabled to offer strenuous opposition to the proposed legislation. If such bill be allowed to become law, a great deal of injury will be done to sufferers from errors of refrac-

tion and eye diseases. Legislators need to be impressed with the fact that no one except a qualified medical practitioner who has made a special study of ophthalmology is competent to prescribe spectacles for any case of defective eyesight."

New South Wales News.

Our Sydney correspondent reports some interesting developments this month. The deputation from the Wholesale and Proprietary Articles Distributors' Association to the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society provides much food for thought. Retail sales by wholesale houses and the listing on the P.A.T.A. of a leading proprietary tonic were also mentioned at the conference. The result of the deputation was the appointment of a committee to meet the wholesalers to try and adjust several points at issue. P.D.L. has made good progress during the month, mainly due to the activity and enthusiasm of Mr. Mears. The Council of the Society has lost its President, Mr. Snelson, who has resigned all his offices in connection with pharmacy. Great difficulty is being experienced in inducing the younger men to take an interest in the Society and accept seats on the Council.

Sale of Insecticides, &c.

A Bill was introduced into the Legislative Council on 8th July by Mr. Haglethorn to regulate the sale of fungicides, insecticides, vermin and weed destroyers. In the definitions, only preparations intended to be used for agricultural or horticultural purposes are included. Power is given to fix standards as to constituents of the articles affected, and to prescribe labelling conditions. Only articles complying with the standard must be sold. Invoices must contain certain specified particulars as to brands, constituents, &c., and are to be regarded as a warranty. Inspectors under the Act may be appointed, and are given wide powers of search, seizure, &c. Analyses are to be made and results may be published. The penalty for a first offence is not more than £20, and for any subsequent offences not less than £5 nor more than £50.

Victoria.

Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

The monthly meeting of the Board was held on July 9th at 11 a.m.

Present—The President (Mr. C. E. Towl) in the chair, and Messrs. Bailey, Buckhurst, Fleay, Gulliver, Jewkes, Sayer, and Towl.

Correspondence Outwards.—Dr. J. A. O'Brien, forwarding correspondence re standard of Preliminary Examination for report.

The various Australian Boards, forwarding the resolutions in reference to the proposed increase in registration fees.

Pharmacy Board of Tasmania, asking for particulars of curriculum and existing reciprocity agreements.

Chief Secretary, forwarding Regulation re 3 per cent. preparations of carbolic acid.

Victorian Disinfectant Manufacturers' Association, conveying the decision of the Board relative to the scheduling as poisons of liquid preparations containing more than 3 per cent. of carbolic acid.

Police, Stratford, forwarding brief in connection with reported infringements of the Poisons Act and authorising an information to be laid.

John Maughan, Mirboo North, stating that the Poisons License issued in the town would not be renewed after December 31, 1913.

Lancelot Herbert, Orbost, intimating that Perry Davis' Painkiller could only legally be sold by qualified persons.

Letters were forwarded to 43 pharmacists under Section 83 of the Medical Act, in reference to alterations in their addresses, and stating that if replies were not returned within the prescribed period of six months they would be liable to have their names erased from the register.

Letters Inwards.—Pharmacy Board of South Australia, asking the Board's opinion on the resolution of the Interstate Conference in reference to re-examination in single subjects. Resolved that a reply be sent stating that the Board considered that a candidate, after having qualified for a single subject, should be allowed to present himself more than once in that subject, such regulation not to apply to dispensing, and that if a candidate failed in that subject he should be required to take the whole examination again.

Information was received that the New South Wales and New Zealand press had been asked to refrain from publishing the names of poisons used in poisoning cases. Mr. Towl said that it was very gratifying that the Victorian press had so cordially observed the Board's request to suppress the names of poisons in these cases. This restraint had had a very beneficial effect, particularly with regard to Lysol. He thought that the proprietors of the daily newspapers should be written to and thanked for their ready acquiescence in the Board's suggestion. Mr. Bailey endorsed the proposal, and the Acting-Registrar was instructed to forward communications to this effect.

John A. Anderson, Nhill, commending the Board for the expedition with which they approached the authorities in reference to his sug-

gestion regarding the sale of narcotics, and stating that the prompt action taken should be appreciated by country pharmacists. Some day he hoped a benefactor to his kind would arise and codify the various acts and regulations which pharmacists were now required to observe.

Pharmacy Board of New South Wales, forwarding schedule of fees charged by the Board, and intimating that the law authorities were being consulted regarding the increase in the registration fee of British and foreign applicants.

Mrs. Eva A. Legge, Brunswick, notifying change in the management of her business, Mr. Chas. V. Browne having replaced Mr. T. McSwiney.

Applications for Registration.—The following applicants were registered:—Arundel Sheridan, Murtoa; John Wm. Florance, Camperdown; Herbert D. Jordan, Ballarat; Kathleen V. Humphreys, Warrnambool; Edward V. Catford, Armadale, passed Final Examination Victoria. Robert T. Sanderson, Melbourne, certificate Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

Certificates of Competency.—Leon Horwitz, Fitzroy, and Arthur H. Hiscock, Deniliquin, were granted Certificates of Competency under the reciprocity agreement.

Registration of Indentures.—The indenture of Evan F. Roberts to Mr. F. Uren, Hamilton, was registered.

Food Standards Committee.—Mr. Towl said that the question of representation on the Food Standards Committee had been held over from the last meeting. He thought that the Board should, as an official body, be represented. Mr. Bailey outlined the present position, and pointed out that although nominally he represented pharmaceutical interests, really he was one of the four commercial representatives on the committee. He did not think it would be politic to press for the appointment of another pharmacist. After further discussion Mr. Buckhurst moved, Mr. Fleay seconded, that an intimation be conveyed to the Department suggesting that Mr. Bailey might be regarded as the official representative of the Board in addition to the other capacities in which he acted. Carried.

Uniform Apprenticeship Indentures.—The solicitor forwarded the draft of the proposed uniform indenture, and the regulations to be made to bring the proposal into operation. The regulations, briefly, provided that the indenture must be made out in triplicate in the form prescribed, and be produced by the apprentice for registration within three months of execution, one form to be retained and filed by the Registrar. The draft of the indenture was then carefully considered, and, with amendments, approved. On the motion of Mr. Jewkes, seconded by Mr. Buckhurst, it was resolved that the regulations, as amended, be adopted and forwarded to the Governor-in-Council for approval. The Acting-Registrar was instructed to obtain an estimate as to the cost of printing a supply of indentures.

Reciprocity Proposals.—A letter was read from the Pharmacy Board of Tasmania setting out the details of the present curriculum and system of examination, and furnishing particulars of existing reciprocity agreements. Mr. Fleay said that the reply was very satisfactory. He had always advocated reciprocal relations between the various States. Tasmania had now practically a similar standard to Victoria, the only difference being that candidates had to attend lectures at the University. He could see no valid reason why reciprocity should not be established, and moved that the Pharmacy Board of Tasmania be written to and informed that the Board was willing to enter into a reciprocal agreement on the basis of the existing treaties with New South Wales, South Australia and Western Australia. Mr. Buckhurst seconded the motion, which was carried. Mr. Fleay said that with regard to New Zealand he would ask that this matter be postponed until the next meeting, as sufficient time had not elapsed to receive a reply to the letter which had been sent.

Revision of Regulations.—The sub-committee, consisting of the President, Mr. Buckhurst and the Acting-Registrar, presented a report on the existing regulations, and recommended a number of alterations to bring them up to date and to rectify several anomalies. The various clauses were considered seriatum, and after discussion adopted, on the motion of Mr. Jewkes, seconded by Mr. Sayer. It was resolved that the regulations as amended be put into proper form and forwarded to the Governor-in-Council for approval.

Health Board Advisory Committee.—It was resolved that a communication be forwarded to the chairman of the Board of Health, suggesting that it would be an advantage if provision were made in the amending Health Bill for pharmaceutical representation on the proposed expert advisory committee to the Board of Health.

Extension of College Building.—On the motion of Mr. Buckhurst, seconded by Mr. Sayer, it was resolved, on the advice of the solicitor, that the formal consent of the Board (as one of the bodies in which the land was vested) be given to the proposed extension of the College building.

Report to Government.—The President, Hon. Treasurer and Acting-Registrar were appointed a sub-committee to draw up a report to be submitted to the Treasurer (Mr. Watt) on the work of the Board.

Retirement of Mr. Bremridge.—The President announced the retirement of Mr. Richard Bremridge from the position of Secretary and Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain after many years' honourable service. He moved that a letter be sent conveying the appreciation of the Board at Mr. Bremridge's uniform courtesy, and thanking him for the great interest he had always evinced in Australian pharmaceutical affairs. Mr. Bailey seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

General Business.—The Board then went into committee, and upon resuming the Hon. Treasurer (Mr. Bailey) presented the monthly financial statement, accounts were passed for payment, police reports were read and minuted, and reports received in reference to the new regulations and additions to the Poisons Schedule, which came into operation on July 1, 1913. The

President said that he had arranged to have a copy of these forwarded to every pharmacist in business as soon as reprints from the "Gazette" could be obtained.

Appointment of Registrar.—Mr. Buckhurst said that he desired to move a motion with regard to the appointment of Registrar. The Acting-Registrar then retired. Mr. Buckhurst said that Mr. Butchers, who had been acting Registrar since February 1 had satisfactorily carried out his duties, and he thought that the time had arrived when the Board should confer on him the full appointment. He moved that Mr. Butchers be appointed Secretary and Registrar of the Board as from August 1, 1913. Mr. Fleay said he had pleasure in seconding the motion, which was endorsed by other members and carried unanimously. Mr. Butchers, on his return to the room, was apprised of the resolution by the President, and thanked the Board for the honour conferred on him.

The Board at 2 p.m. adjourned.

The following is the text of the "Gazette" notices of July 2 and 9:—

Poisons Act 1890.

ARTICLES DEEMED TO BE POISONS.

PROCLAMATION.

By His Excellency Sir John Michael Fleetwood Fuller, Baronet, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and St. George; Governor of the State of Victoria and its Dependencies in the Commonwealth of Australia, &c., &c., &c.

WHEREAS by the Poisons Act 1890 (54 Vict. No. 1125) it is among other things enacted that the several articles mentioned in the Second Schedule to the said Act shall be deemed poisons within the meaning of the said Act; and on the recommendation of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria the Governor in Council may, by Proclamation duly published in the *Government Gazette*, from time to time declare that any other article specified in such Proclamation shall be deemed a poison within the meaning of the aforesaid Act: Now therefore I, the Governor of the State of Victoria in the Commonwealth of Australia, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said State, do by this my Proclamation declare that the undermentioned articles shall be deemed to be poisons within the meaning of the Poisons Act 1890 aforesaid, viz.:—

Diethyl barbituric acid, and other Alkyl, Aryl, or metallic derivative of barbituric acid, whether described as Veronal, Proponal, Medinal, or by any other trade name, mark, or designation; and all poisonous Urethanes and Ureides.

Morphine, and its salts.

Paraldehyde;

Phosphorus, and all preparations and admixtures thereof (except matches).

Sulphonal, and its homologues, whether described as Trional, Tetronal, or by any other trade name, mark, or designation.

Liquid preparations of *Carbolic Acid* (phenol) and its homologues containing more than 3 per centum of these substances.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the State of Victoria aforesaid, at Melbourne, this thirtieth day of June, in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and thirteen, in the fourth year of His Majesty's reign.

(L.S.) JOHN FULLER.

By His Excellency's Command,

J. MURRAY,
Chief Secretary.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

Poisons Acts.

ADDITIONAL REGULATION.

At the Executive Council Chambers, Melbourne, the thirtieth day of June, 1913.

PRESENT.

His Excellency the Governor of Victoria.
Mr. Murray — Mr. Thomson
Mr. Graham — Mr. Adamson
Mr. Brown

WHEREAS by the Poisons Act 1890 (54 Vict. No. 1125) it is provided that the Governor in Council may, on the recommendation of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria, from time to time make Regulations as to (among other things) the sale or custody of any poisons or otherwise as to carrying into effect the objects of the said Act: Now therefore His Excellency the Governor of the State of Victoria, with the advice of the Executive Council thereof, and pursuant to the powers conferred by the Poisons Acts, doth by this Order make the following additional Regulation, which has been duly recommended by the Pharmacy Board of Victoria (that is to say):—

(1) This Regulation shall be read and construed with the Regulations under the Poisons Acts approved by the Governor in Council respectively on the 15th day of October, 1877, and the 18th day of June, 1907.

(2) The following poisons, namely:—

Chloral Hydrate and solutions and preparations thereof;

Cocaine and its salts and all preparations;

Diethyl Barbituric acid and other alkyl, aryl, and metallic derivative of barbituric acid, whether described as Veronal, Proponal, Medinal, or by any other trade name, mark, or designation, and all poisonous Urethanes and Ureides;

Heroin and its salts;

Morphine and its salts;

Paraldehyde;

Sulphonal and its homologues, whether described as Trional, Tetronal, or by any other trade name, mark, or designation,

shall not be delivered (whether in pursuance of a sale or otherwise) except on the written prescription or order of a duly qualified medical practitioner.

(3) The provisions of these Regulations shall not apply to the sale or delivery of liniments, ointments, or other preparations which are prepared for external use only, or any of the enumerated poisons used as ingredients in veterinary medicines, provided that such liniments, ointments, preparations, or medicines are delivered (in pursuance of a sale or otherwise) in good faith and not in evasions or attempted evasions of these Regulations.

And the Honourable George Graham, for and on behalf of His Majesty's Chief Secretary for the State of Victoria, shall give the necessary directions herein accordingly.

F. W. MABBOTT,
Clerk of the Executive Council.

Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia

The monthly meeting of the Council was held on July 2.

Present: The President (Mr. A. R. Bailey) in the chair, and Messrs. Champion, Cossar, Francis, Imes, Kernot, Leete, Owen, Pickford, and Taylor. Apology from Mr. Rankin.

Correspondence.—Registrar Melbourne University, in reference to the lectures in Materia Medica and Practical Pharmacy to third year medical students, and stating that the class would commence on 1st September.

Victorian Optical Association, relative to the deputation to the Acting-Premier regarding the proposed Opticians' Bill.

Pharmaceutical Societies of New South Wales, Queensland, and South Australia, acknowledging the receipt of telegrams with reference to the Pure Food and Drugs Conference, and expressing satisfaction with the information contained therein.

Mr. J. H. Young, Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia, wrote stating that the Council endorsed Dr. Plowman's nomination as Scientific Secretary of the Conference.

Dr. Sidney Plowman wrote accepting the position of Scientific Secretary, and thanking the various State Societies for endorsing his nomination. He appreciated the honour conferred on him, and would endeavour to carry out the duties of the position to the best of his ability.

Mr. E. W. Mayhew, Perth, telegraphed that the Pharmaceutical Council of W.A. trusted that the interests of pharmacists were being watched at the Pure Food and Drugs Conference.

Mr. W. Trathen wrote applying for copies of the A.P.F. to place before the delegates attending the Pure Food Conference. The copies asked for were supplied.

Mr. Arthur H. Owen, Geelong, wrote asking for information as to the requirements of the Shops and Factories Act regarding assistants. The particulars asked for were furnished.

Dr. Percy Lord, thanking the Council for letter of congratulation, and assuring the members that he would not readily forget his association with pharmacy after having spent ten years as a qualified member of the craft. He would eagerly avail himself of any opportunity to advance the interests of pharmacy to the best of his ability.

Messrs. Felton, Grimwade and Co. forwarded through Mr. T. E. Turner four samples representing different stages in the manufacture of Cream of Tartar from the dried wine lees. The specimens had been placed in the Museum, and a letter of thanks forwarded.

Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland, asking if the Council favoured a "tariff" or "per capita" arrangement for the supply of drugs under any proposed scheme of National Insurance. The letter was referred to the P.D.L. for consideration and reply.

Mr. F. H. Grant, Woodend, wrote asking if his interests as a practising optician would be conserved under the proposed Optical Bill. He was informed that there was nothing in the Bill to prejudice his rights.

Government Secretary for the Northern Territory, acknowledging receipt of letter bringing the A.P.F. preparation "Septol" under notice, and stating that it had been passed on to the Chief Health Officer.

Mr. J. Herbert Evans, Liverpool, in reference to drug cultivation in Australia. It was resolved that the letter be published in the Journal.

Election of New Members.—The following new members were balloted for and elected:—Full members—Thom. E. Cooper, Bendigo; Thomas R. Jones, Bendigo; Leon Horwitz, Sydney; John Maughan, Mirboo North. Associate members—Frank G. Thomas, Fitzroy; Walter Widdowson, North Sydney; Hedley E. Edwards, North Melbourne.

The Pure Food and Drugs Conference.—The President reported that since the last meeting the second Interstate Conference on Uniform Standards for Foods and Drugs had been held. He had attended all the meetings as one of the Victorian representatives, and he thought that when the results were published it would be found that pharmacists were in a much better position than they were after the first conference. It was very satisfactory to note that all the delegates appeared to have been well posted on the various points by the different State Pharmaceutical Societies, and that fact greatly helped him in the representations entrusted to him as the only pharmaceutical delegate attending the Conference.

Mr. Owen said that the work done at the Conference by Mr. Bailey was very encouraging. The sitting of the Conference extended over ten days, both morning and afternoon, and sometimes in the evening, and he thought that pharmacists were under a deep debt of gratitude to Mr. Bailey for the interest he had taken in these matters. He desired to move that the Council's appreciation of the President's services at the Interstate Pure Foods Conference be duly recorded in the minutes.

Mr. Pickford said that he had great pleasure in endorsing the remarks made by Mr. Owen, and in seconding the motion moved by him. Mr. Bailey had put in an immense amount of work, and it was the least they could do to show some appreciation of his services. The motion, which was put to the meeting by Mr. Owen, was carried with acclamation.

Mr. Bailey thanked the members for their vote of appreciation. The Conference had meant a good deal of hard work, and not a little overcoming of difficulties, but he thought that, taken as a whole, pharmacists had done very much better at the Conference just concluded than at the one held at Sydney in 1910.

Architect's Report on Building.—The architect (Mr. John A. B. Koch), who was present by invitation, submitted the sketch plan of the proposed additions to the College building, and an estimate as to the cost of the same. Mr. Koch, after explaining the plans to the members, retired. Mr. Pickford said he thought that the Government should be asked to contribute something towards the cost of the new building. Mr. Kernot said he was rather inclined to favour this proposal. Mr. Owen thought that it would be inopportune to approach the Government at the present time. He moved that the architect be instructed to prepare full plans and specifications, and call for tenders for the new building. Mr. Francis seconded the motion, which was carried. The Secretary was instructed to consult the Solicitor with regard to one or two legal matters before asking the architect to go on with the plans.

The Optical Bill.—A report was submitted regarding the deputation which waited on the Premier, concerning the proposed Optical Bill. The Secretary reported that Mr. Murray had asked to be furnished with particulars of the optical class. This information had been supplied.

Lectures on Commercial Subjects.—The President explained that owing to the pressure of other business, no opportunity had occurred of dealing with this matter during the month. After some discussion, Mr. Pickford moved that the question be referred to the Education Committee, and that Mr. Leete be also invited to be present.

Half-yearly Audit.—The Treasurer (Mr. Owen) submitted the financial statement for the six months ending 30th June, 1913, together with a certificate from the Auditors as to its correctness. On the motion of Mr. Kernot, seconded by Mr. Champion, the financial statement and the auditor's report were received and adopted.

Lectures to Medical Students.—The Secretary reported that the lectures in Materia Medica and Practical Pharmacy for third year medical students would commence on September 1st. Mr. Kernot moved, Mr. Francis seconded, that Doctors F. Hobill Cole and Sidney Plowman be re-appointed lecturers for the current year.

Intermediate Examination.—A report was received from the Pharmacy Board, forwarding the proposed alterations in the method of conducting the Intermediate Examination. The report was received and adopted, and the new regulation approved of.

Report re College.—The Secretary was instructed to prepare a comprehensive report on the work undertaken at the College.

Accounts were passed for payment, and after the transaction of routine business the Council adjourned.

Proposed North Suburban Association.

A very successful meeting of city and north suburban pharmacists was held at the College of Pharmacy on June 24 to consider the formation of a Chemists' Association for Melbourne and the northern suburbs.

Mr. F. Buckhurst was voted to the chair, and there were also present Messrs. Attwood, Aumont, Barker, Bartleman, Mrs. and Miss Bignell, Messrs. Black, Butchers, Cheshire, Clarkson, Cochran, Dyte, W. J. Davis, Gardiner, Garrick, Gabriel, Gulliver, T. B. Jones, H. Jacobs, Kamnitzer, Leete, Merfield, Murphy, Murton, O'Halloran, Pleasance, O. Smith, Sayle, Shaw, Sutcliffe, Towl and A. Vale.

The chairman said that the meeting had been convened by Mr. Bartleman at the desire of a number of pharmacists who desired to see an association formed similar to that in operation in the southern suburbs. His idea was that there should be one large association with a nominal subscription, divided into smaller sections according to locality. There was evidently a new spirit among pharmacists, and he believed that the formation of such an association would be very advantageous in many ways to the retailer.

Mr. Leete, at the request of the chairman, then explained the constitution and working of the South Suburban Association, which was able to carry on on an annual subscription of 5s., with a small extra levy when any outside work was undertaken, such as the systematic distribution of the A.P.F. with samples.

Mr. Bartleman briefly outlined the reasons which led him to convene the meeting. He believed the possibilities of the proposed association were immense, as there were many matters concerning which united action would be an advantage. Outside competition was very keen, and it was only by adopting special and united methods that it could be successfully met.

Mr. Towl referred to the work of the P.D.L. as a stimulus to unity of purpose amongst pharmacists. The old policy of isolation was a thing of the past, and they were now learning to appreciate and understand one another better. It was possible that a great deal of useful work could be done by the proposed association. The south suburban pharmacists had paved the way, and their association had been able to accomplish much valuable work. A proper understanding of the commercial trend of modern business was essential if they were to be able to successfully meet competition. Pharmacists had a duty to themselves and to their fellow pharmacists. The more they pulled together the better for all. It was time the narrow and provincial spirit was swept away. Misunderstandings often arose which were capable of explanation, particularly with regard to prices. He cordially approved of

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the suggestion to form an association, as he felt that social and commercial intercourse would be of great value to all. He moved that in the opinion of this meeting it is desirable to form an association of the city and north suburban pharmacists.

Mr. Aumont seconded the resolution, and dealt with the form of competition which chemists had to contend with as regards the cutting grocer. He thought that by a well-organised plan of co-operation they could to a great extent overcome this, and instanced a case where pharmacists by combining had been able to meet a class of competition which had come under notice recently. He referred to Bisurated Magnesia. There was ample room for concerted action. It only wanted someone to do the executive work promptly, and in the proposed association he saw a means of doing a vast amount of good.

The resolution was then carried unanimously. A general discussion then ensued as to the best means of meeting the competition referred to. Some speakers advocated cut-rate competition; with others the P.A.T.A. found favour. Others questioned the wisdom of the association in bringing itself into opposition with large vested interests. Mr. Leete urged that there must be some latitude given as to the prices of commercial lines. Dispensing rates were more readily adjustable, but with proprietary medicines the case was different. The chairman and other speakers urged caution. The reprisals on the part of large concerns with big interests at stake might be worse than the competition complained of. Mr. Aumont thought that collectively the chemists could do a great deal more than they were. Mr. Cheshire said that to manufacture small lines would be unprofitable. It was the huge advertising which created the demand. Where was the capital to do this to come from? Mr. O'Halloran detailed how an extreme case of competition was being met in his suburb. Mr. Jacobs said that grocers would always be able to sell cheaper than chemists. He deprecated insane cutting. Mr. Dyte said that if the sale of proprietary medicines was made unprofitable outside traders would not stock them. He doubted whether the South Suburban Association had brought about unanimity in that district. If one man stood out he could wreck any agreement as to prices. Mr. Merfield said that it was because chemists' prices for proprietaries were higher than other traders that induced the public to believe that dispensing rates were too high. Many women would walk five miles to save a half-penny. Much might, however, be done by buying in large parcels.

Mr. Leete said that some months ago a conference with the grocers was held with satisfactory results as to prices. He did not think the grocers wanted to cut rates. A working agreement was preferable to wild competition. There was certain to be a large risk if they attempted to do too much. The chairman endorsed this view and counselled prudence. A powerful P.A.T.A. with the support of the wholesalers and manufacturers, would do more for pharmacists than unprofitable competition having a problematical end in view. Mr. Jacobs moved that a committee of seven be appointed to make inquiries as to the support likely to be accorded to the association. Mr. Towl seconded the motion, which was carried. Messrs. Aumont, Bartleman, Cheshire, Clarkson, Davis, Gardiner and May were elected members of the committee, and it was arranged that they should meet and draw up a report to be submitted to a further meeting on July 22. The annual subscription was fixed at 5s.

Mr. Sayle moved a vote of thanks to Messrs. Cochran and Leete for being present at the meeting. The motion was unanimously carried, and Messrs. Leete and Cochran responded, the latter outlining his experience as secretary of the South Suburban Association, and strongly urging the adoption of the price mark, "Antimsulph." A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

Mr. Bartleman reports that the committee has ascertained the feeling of the pharmacists interested, and has found that there is a strong inclination towards a united metropolitan association being formed. The committee has convened a meeting to be held at the College of Pharmacy at 8.30 p.m. on July 22, when it is hoped there will be a large attendance to discuss the proposal.

East Suburban Chemists' Association.

The association met on July 15th at Camberwell, the President (Mr. Buckhurst) occupying the chair. The principal business was to discuss the attitude to be taken with regard to the proposed Metropolitan Chemists' Association. After discussion, it was unanimously resolved to support the proposal.

South Suburban Chemists' Association.

A meeting of the above association was held at the Star Hotel, Prahran, on July 16th. Mr. Bailey presided over a representative attendance. Six o'clock closing was discussed, but no definite decision was arrived at. It was agreed, however, that the association might favourably consider the matter if any scheme could be adopted to enlist the general sympathy of medical men and to arrange for the dispensing of urgent medicines after closing hours by means of central pharmacies or otherwise. Regarding the proposal to close on Saturday afternoons no definite motion was carried, but the concensus of opinion was against the suggestion. The question of a Metropolitan Chemists' Association was discussed at some length. There was a disposition to join in with such an association if established on well-defined lines. Those present, however, made it clear that if the idea was to form a large buying syndicate, they could not see their way to join in, as they were for one thing pledged to support the Sigma proposition, and, secondly, they were doubtful if the expense of establishing a central distributing depot for proprietary and other medicines had been taken into sufficient consideration. Members promised to attend the general meeting on July 22nd, and to report the result arrived at to a further meeting of the South Suburban Association.

The Harry Shillinglaw Testimonial.

The Executive Committee has called a meeting of the full committee, and local subscribers for July 24th at Her Majesty's Hotel, Swanston-street, at 0.15 p.m., when a report will be presented of the work done, as far as advices have been received. The meeting will then consider what further work they wish carried out, and the date for closing the subscription list will be discussed. A notice has been sent to members of the committee and Melbourne subscribers asking them to attend if possible. The hon. secretary reports that subscriptions still continue to come in, and that general interest in the testimonial is kept up by weekly meetings of the Executive Committee.

Chemists Cricket Club Dance.

The annual Cinderella ball of the members of the Chemists' Cricket Club and their friends was held at the Masonic Hall, Melbourne, on July 15th. Dancing commenced at 8.15 p.m., and while the attendance was not as large as in former years, owing to the event clashing with another similar function, those present spent a very enjoyable evening. The hall was tastefully decorated in orange and brown. Excellent music was supplied by Di Gilio's well-known string band, and the catering arrangements were in capable hands. Mr. S. Fripp, jun., acted as hon. secretary, and he, with the members of the committee, was assiduous in his efforts to promote the enjoyment of the evening.

Dental.

Dental Board of Victoria.

The monthly meeting of the Dental Board was held on Friday, June 20.

Mr. Iliffe, in the unavoidable absence of the President, was in the chair.

There were also present Mr. A. L. Elvins, Mr. T. F. W. Hall, Dr. G. E. P. Philpots, D.D.S., and Dr. R. J. B. Yule, D.D.S.

Apologies for absence were received from the President (Dr. J. W. Springthorpe) and Dr. J. E. Nihill, who were unavoidably absent.

The Degree of D.D.Sc.—Dr. J. K. Clark, D.D.Sc., Dr. E. S. Fischer, D.D.Sc., Dr. J. M. Lewis, D.D.Sc., and Dr. E. B. Nicholls, D.D.Sc., made application for the entry of their degrees of Doctor of Dental Science in the Dentists' Register. The three former appeared in person, but Dr. Nicholls was unable to appear on account of sickness. The applications were complied with.

Other University Degrees.—The Registrar submitted to the Board the list of Board graduates who had also obtained degrees at the University. The list included 15 Bachelors of Dental Surgery and 25 Bachelors of Dental Science. Amongst the latter were: Alexander Samuel Cohn—20th April, 1912; Henry Thomas Stredwick—5th April, 1913; Percival Wood—5th April, 1913; who, in addition to their dental qualifications, are registered pharmaceutical chemists by examination.

It was decided, where the graduates were already registered as dentists, to enter their University Degrees in the Dentists' Register as additional qualifications.

Registered as Dentists.—George Normar Roberts, L.D.S., B.D.Sc., made application for registration as a dentist.—Application granted.

Zoe Craig Dixson, L.D.S., B.D.Sc., made application for registration as a dentist.—Application granted.

Infringement of the Act.—The Registrar was instructed to look into a case of alleged infringement of the Act, and to take Counsel's opinion with reference thereto. If the opinion of Counsel were that an infringement of the Act had been committed, a prosecution to be immediately instituted.

Legal.

Action against a Herbalist.

A Supreme Court action has been commenced against H. E. Kuglemann, herbalist, Queen-street, Melbourne, by Beatrice Brown, dressmaker, North Melbourne, claiming £1000 damages for alleged negligence by a wrong and improper method of treatment. The case was mentioned in the Practice Court on July 10 before Mr. Justice Cussen, when counsel for plaintiff said that the allegation was that defendant treated plaintiff for gall stones, and that he gave her medicine containing methylated spirits. Defendant claimed that he was absolved from liability by a clause in his agreement of treatment. Mr. Justice Cussen made an order for pleadings, discovery and interrogatories, and directed that the case should be held in Melbourne before a judge and jury.

Standard of Acid.

An order nisi to review a decision of Mr. P. J. Dwyer, P.M., was dealt with by the Chief Justice in the Practice Court on June 23. In May last Messrs. Gollin and Co., of Bourke-street, Melbourne, merchants, were fined 40s. on a charge of having sold tartaric acid which was below the standard required by the Pure Foods Act. Gollin and Co. purchased the acid in London, and before its arrival here portion of the consignment was sold to the Purina Food Company. The Purina Company re-sold part of their consignment to Messrs. Felton, Grimwade and Co., who refused to take delivery. While the acid was in possession of the Purina Company, to which it had been returned, Inspector Mellis purchased a sample, and when it was analysed it was found to be 93.98 per cent. instead of 95 per cent. The Chief Justice said he thought that the magistrate had arrived at a right conclusion. The inspector had the right to prosecute, and the defendants being the sellers of the goods were liable to be proceeded against. He discharged the order nisi with costs.

New South Wales.

Pharmacy Board of New South Wales.

The regular meeting of the Board of Pharmacy was held on July 8. Mr. C. J. Carroll occupied the chair, and there were also present Messrs. Ll. P. Williams, T. S. Loney and F. P. J. Gray.

Fees for Registration.—A letter was read from the Pharmacy Board of Victoria, stating their intention of raising the registration fee for British and foreign applicants from two guineas to five guineas, and further intimating that they considered that the fee for inter-State applicants should be raised to three guineas. Mr. Carroll said that personally he quite approved of the raised fee, but he doubted whether they had the power in New South Wales to raise the fee, as it was fixed at one guinea by the Act? He thought that the opinion of the Crown Law office should be taken in this matter.

Mr. Loney pointed out that when the Act was passed there was no reciprocity agreement, and hence an entirely new state of things had arisen which was not then contemplated, and so no provision was made to meet such a case.

Mr. Carroll said that it would be no harm to get legal advice before we acted. If Mr. Forster put the whole case before the Crown Law office they would know exactly where they stood in the matter.

Mr. Loney said that it was a shame that they should have to pay so high a rate for reciprocity with England when they admitted the English chemist for the sum of one guinea.

The letter was formally received, and further consideration postponed until such time as an answer was received from the Crown Law Department.

Final Examination Failures.—A letter was received from the Adelaide Pharmacy Board, enquiring the practice in New South Wales in cases where students fail in one subject.

Mr. Loney explained that their former practice had been that if a student failed in any subject save dispensing, he was allowed to go up for that subject alone a second time. Since their last conference in Melbourne it was resolved that if a student thus failed he should in future be allowed to go up as often as he pleased in the subject in which he had failed until he passed. There was an exception in the case of dispensing, and if a candidate failed in that subject he must take the whole examination again.

It was resolved to write to the Adelaide Board explaining the practice in New South Wales.

Election of Members of the Board.—The returning officer presented his report on the election held on July 8 to fill four vacancies on the Pharmacy Board. There were only four nominations for the vacancies, and these were the retiring candidates, he therefore declared Messrs. H. S. Brothwood, C. J. Carroll, Ll. P. Williams, and F. P. J. Gray duly elected to fill the vacancies. The returning officer's report was formally adopted.

Registration under the Pharmacy Act.—The following applications were received:—Archibald Spy (chemist and druggist of Great Britain) of Sydney, A. McKellar (pharmaceutical chemist of Great Britain) of Stanmore, W. E. Bates (chemist and druggist of Great Britain) of Sydney, F. W. Eron (chemist and druggist of Great Britain) of Stanmore, L. Bonnington of Sydney, L. Burrows of Moree, and W. E. Bates of Sydney (pharmaceutical chemists of New Zealand), and Leon Horwitz (pharmaceutical chemist of Victoria) applied for registration and presented the proper certificates. Registration was granted in each case.

Pharmacists' Poisons Licenses.—Applications for pharmacists' poisons licences were received from the same applicants as applied under the Pharmacy Act and were granted. Annual poisons licenses were granted to seven applicants in districts where there was no chemist's shop.

Preliminary Examination.—The preliminary examiner reported that the following candidates had recently passed their Preliminary Examination:—John Hunter of Forbes, F. J. Elston of Ashfield, D. N. Chapple of Neutral Bay, M. A. Barnes of Leichardt, R. H. Stewart of Sydney; five candidates out of fourteen. He also reported that the chief subject of failure was arithmetic.

Prosecution Under Poisons Act.—The Registrar reported that M. J. Farran was prosecuted at the Paddington Police Court on July 7 for illegally selling poisons, and pleading guilty was fined £2, and costs. A storekeeper at Dorrigo was also fined on June 10 the sum of 10s. for selling Lysol without a poisons license.

Poisoning Cases.—Mr. Carroll said that some time ago they moved in the matter of getting the daily press to suppress the name of the poison used in cases of suicide. This was now the general practice, and he suggested that a letter should be sent to the leading coroners of the State calling attention to this change in the former practice of the Press.

It was agreed that a letter be sent accordingly.

Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales.

The regular meeting of the Council was held on July 8th. Mr. C. J. Carroll occupied the chair, and Messrs. Penrose, Loney, Gray, Williams were also present.

Correspondence.—National Insurance.—The Pharmaceutical Council of Queensland wrote asking for a consensus of opinion as to the best course to advocate regarding the payment of pharmacists for work done under any system of national insurance.

Mr. Loney said that he had given considerable attention to the subject, and had read the reports in the journals as to the working of the system in Great Britain, and he was of the opinion that they would be making a great mistake if they consented to any per capita rate. A tariff rate would be far better, and he thought that the experience of chemists in England showed that this system was proving fairly satisfactory though it involved a lot of clerical work. However, they would get used to this, and as the doctor would have a free hand to order what

be pleased the dispensing would be very different from when he was tied down to certain formulae.

After further discussion it was resolved to write to the Queensland Society stating that this Council believed that a tariff rate would be preferable to a per capita rate for the pharmacist.

Resignation of the President.—A letter was read from Mr. T. M. Snelson, resigning his position as President of the Society, and also as a member of the Board. Mr. Snelson said that his business demanded his closest attention, and he could not spare the time to carry out the duties of President and as a member of the Board. He regretted having to resign so soon after having taken office, but there was no other course open to him. Mr. Forster explained that an effort had been made to induce Mr. Snelson to withdraw his resignation, but a second letter had been received merely confirming Mr. Snelson's desire to retire. Mr. T. S. Loney said he thought it a pity that young men should decline to give up their time in the interests of the Society. He was one of the older members, and was content to stand aside for the younger men, but these were very slow in coming forward. They had had a vacancy on the Council for some months due to the retirement of Mr. Brereton, and they had not been able to fill the position. He thought that their young men should display more zeal in the interests of their profession. After further discussion it was resolved to send a letter to Mr. Snelson, expressing the appreciation of the Council for his past services and asking him to continue in office for the remainder of his term.

Election of Councillor.—The vacancy caused by the retirement of Mr. R. G. Brereton not having been filled the Secretary brought the matter up again. Several names were mentioned, and it was reported that certain gentlemen had been approached, but though very suitable in every way, they declined to accept office. Mr. Gray said that he would nominate Mr. Schofield, of Woollahra. He was a young man, and if elected would accept the position, and from personal knowledge Mr. Gray thought he would prove a suitable and useful man. The nomination was received.

Books on Eucalypti.—The Secretary reported the receipt of pamphlets by Messrs. Baker and Smith on the Eucalypti of Tasmania. The books were received with thanks.

The Deputation from the Wholesale Trade.—The Secretary reported that a special meeting of the Council had been held to meet a deputation from the wholesale houses to discuss matters of mutual interest. A summary of proceedings was laid before the meeting. Mr. Carroll said that he thought that this was a most important move. The pharmacists had not waited upon the wholesale trade, but the wholesalers had asked to meet the pharmacists through the Council, as representing the retailers. The meeting had been a most cordial one, and in response to questions that had been put to him, Dr. J. F. Elliott, as the spokesman for the wholesale trade, had promised them several important reforms that they thought were only reasonable. He proposed that a small business committee should be appointed to deal with any difficulties arising between wholesalers and retailers, and also to see how the regulations of the Society could best be altered to meet the changing requirements of the times. Mr. F. P. J. Gray proposed that such committee should consist of Mr. C. J. Carroll, Mr. A. E. Sharpe and the mover. This was agreed upon.

Mr. Carroll said that this committee would have to represent the retail trade to the wholesale houses, and if there was any matter which any of the Pharmacists' Associations had to bring before the wholesale trade, any grievances to redress or any alterations to make which would be of mutual interest, they now had a proper body through which they could make their complaints known, and which the wholesale houses would recognise as spokesmen for the trade. This would save a lot of time and trouble. They must think out their case well before they presented it, and not be unreasonable in their demands.

Early Closing Bill.—The Council formed a committee of the whole to watch the interests of pharmacists as expressed in the last large meeting of the trade held at St. James' Hall, when practically the whole of those present voted in favour of the closing hour being 8 p.m.

Patent Medicine and Proprietary Articles Distributors' Association.

A deputation from the above newly-formed association met the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales at the Board Room, Richmond Terrace, on July 1. The deputation consisted of Dr. J. F. Elliott and Mr. A. L. Silly, and these gentlemen spoke on behalf of all the members of their Association, which comprise all the wholesale distributors of patent medicines in New South Wales.

Dr. Elliott acted as spokesman, and said that they had asked for this conference with the Pharmaceutical Council because they desired to place before the representatives of the drug trade their contemplated course of action. They recognised that in the Pharmaceutical Council they had the representatives of the largest and most powerful organisation of the retail pharmacists that ever existed in this State. The matter which he had to place before them had been well thought out by the association which he had the honour to represent, and he was sure that as business men the Council would see the reasonableness of their position.

Dr. Elliott first dealt with the prices of patent medicines. New rates had been arranged with a view of getting purchasers to order less frequently and in larger quantities. Quantity prices would remain practically the same as before. By ordering at the beginning of the month a reasonable quantity a full two months' credit was given for pharmacists to sell the goods. It was only where purchasers repeatedly ordered 1-6th or 1-12th of a dozen through the month that the wholesalers were compelled to raise the prices. The association which had been formed had agreed upon a price list unanimously. It was not their wish to penalise anybody, but they simply asked the trade to co-operate with them in reducing the number of times the lines were ordered each month. This would reduce the labour of handling, invoicing, and delivery. If

their clients would not order in this way, they would be compelled to increase the price for small quantities and that increase would be about 5 per cent. They had used their influence with all manufacturers to induce them to place their goods on the P.A.T.A. list or to get such firms who had hitherto been "cutting" to increase their prices. They were in a position to say that if such houses did not fall into line with the rest of the drug trade their supplies of many leading lines would be cut off. Clements Tonic Co. had decided to place their preparation on the P.A.T.A. list at 2s. 6d. and 4s. per bottle, and this would give the retailer 3d. extra profit per bottle.

Regarding Terms.—In order to fall into line with distributors such as the wholesale grocery and suppliers of storekeepers they had decided to amend their regulations regarding terms. For cash received within ten days after date of despatch of goods a discount of 3 per cent. would be allowed. For cash received after the expiration of ten days the terms would be as at present.

Regarding First of the Month Orders.—For city and suburban orders and goods despatched by rail on any of the five last working days of the previous month goods would be charged from the first of the month. The same would also apply to steamer goods, with the addition that where the last steamer leaves before the five days the goods would be regarded as first of the month orders. Saturday was not regarded as a working day. From this it would be seen that if larger orders were given on the first of the month, over 60 days were given in which to sell the goods and pay for them and obtain full 2½ per cent. discount.

The reasons for this action were evident. Everything had advanced in selling price except patent medicines At the present prices they were handling these goods at a loss. Ten or fifteen years ago they got the same prices as they were getting to-day, but in the meanwhile the expenses of distribution had trebled themselves. Hours of labour were now reduced. They were obliged, owing to the small stocks held by chemists, to handle between 500 and 600 orders per day on the town and suburbs alone, and had to despatch these orders the same day. Unfortunately they could not get even a fair percentage of these orders before 11 o'clock and practically all these orders had to be put up, checked, and packed on the carts by 4 o'clock to enable the carts (owing to the carters award) to leave in time. By ordering larger quantities at the first of the month, a large amount of this extra work would be done away with.

They regretted that they could not give any better terms than at present to those who fell in with the request, but, on the other hand, those who did not co-operate in this way would have to pay the extra rate. They would want as far as possible to sell one dozen original packages of the leading lines, which any chemist could sell in two months. If under one dozen were supplied 5 per cent. extra would be charged. They were issuing a price list of leading patent medicines and toilet articles. This had been most carefully compiled, and they had striven in every instance to, as far as possible, retain present prices to quantity buyers, and thus to study the interests of the retail trade.

When they issued new regulations in November last they were upbraided by some for not putting the matter before the Pharmaceutical Society. They, therefore, now approached the Society to explain the whole matter, and to ask their kind co-operation as master pharmacists, and as the recognised officials in the pharmaceutical profession in New South Wales.

Mr. A. L. Silly said that Dr. Elliott had very fully and ably placed the case before them, and he hoped that they would see the reasonableness of the position. He could fully endorse what Dr. Elliott had stated in the matter.

Mr. C. J. Carroll said that no doubt there was a great deal in what Dr. Elliott had said, and the case had been put clearly before them from the wholesale house point of view. They would weigh well the arguments used, and no doubt there would not be any difficulty in working harmoniously in the matter. He would like, however, to point out that there had been a long-standing grievance with the retailers, and that was the practice of wholesale houses supplying retail orders. That this had been done could not be denied, and he hoped that the practice would be put down.

Dr. Elliott said that on behalf of his company, and he was sure that he could speak also for the rest of the wholesale trade, every effort was now being made to prevent any person from thus purchasing. Since his accession to the position as managing director to Elliott Brothers Ltd. he had issued stringent directions on the matter, and even employees who desired to make purchases for their own use could only do so during a few hours on Fridays. He thought that the retail trade might accept their assurance that every precaution would be taken to prevent improper sales.

The deputation thanked the Council for their courteous reception and withdrew.

The Small-pox Scare has not greatly increased the chemists' business, but the doctors have reaped a golden harvest from it. The State officials will not give a certificate of successful vaccination to travellers, and consequently any traveller desirous of leaving the State has to go to a private practitioner and get him to certify that vaccination has been successfully performed. For this the fee charged has been from 10s. to one guinea. Many private practitioners charge from 10s. 6d. to one guinea for a vaccination, but this also includes a certificate, so it is just as well to go to a doctor at once than get the vaccination free from a Government official if you wish to travel.

Medical Inspection of School Children.—This work has begun in Sydney, but either it is going to be very casually done or parents are going to resent the treatment. Many of the questions which are supposed to be asked are unobjectionable, but some are of such a character as to cause parents to strongly object. Here are a few of the questions which at one time or another parents have been expected to answer:—"How many children have there been in the family; how many are dead; what was their age and

cause of death?" "Has any member of the family suffered from consumption"? "Has any member of the family been mentally deficient"? "Has any relative committed suicide"? There are many questions of this character which parents would naturally object to answer, but which a medical examiner might think very necessary for the future welfare of the child. Parents send their children to school to be educated, and not to be doctored. This is the stand taken by many parents in New South Wales, and people are asking: "Under what Act of Parliament does the Education Department derive its power to compulsorily force medical examination on the children attending our public schools?" Some parents refuse to answer any questions, stating that their family doctor attends to the children's health.

The Northern District Pharmacists' Association.—This association has been formed at Newcastle, and has elected its officers for the first time. Mr. W. H. Sproull has been elected President, and Mr. A. M. Hart Hon. Secretary. It is purposed shortly to celebrate the inauguration of this society by a dinner. There is every prospect of other similar associations being formed. The Northern Suburbs Association and the Eastern Suburbs Association, near Sydney, have been a great success, and have led to a better understanding between pharmacists in these districts, and there is work for similar associations in the South and in the West.

Personal and Trade Notes.

Mr. Grigson, pharmacist, of Ryde, has sold his business to Mr. Heap, recently manager of the Coogee Pharmacy (Mr. Mallam's branch shop).

Mr. A. Dash has opened a new pharmacy at Randwick, and Mr. F. Smith has opened a pharmacy at King-street, Newtown.

A number of unqualified chemists' assistants are opening in business in Sydney, under the guise of a patent medicine shop or a herbalist's business; one even goes so far as to call his business a "Surgery," and offers advice and medicine half-a-crown.

Mr. A. M. Hart was the recipient of a handsome present from the Newcastle pharmacists in token of their appreciation of his efforts to bring them together to form an association. The present took the form of a handsome marble clock, with a silver plate, suitably inscribed.

Mr. Abraham Meyer Hart, chemist, of Newcastle, formerly of Burrowa, was married at St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church, Sydney, by the Rev. John Ferguson, to Mrs. Oborn, widow of the late Dr. Oborn, of Queensland, and daughter of the late Rev. G. D. Copeland, of London, and niece of the late Hon. Henry Copeland, once Agent-General for New South Wales.

Mr. P. Dudley Belcher, well known as a popular representative of Messrs. Burroughs, Welcome and Co., has purchased the pharmacy of Mr. J. Erwin Jackson at Mount-street, North Sydney. Mr. Belcher is well known both to physicians and pharmacists round Sydney. He is a South Australian pharmacist, who came to Sydney about ten years ago to fill an appointment with Burroughs, Welcome and Co., but now is returning to the retail, and has secured a pharmacy where he should be able to work up a fine business. Mr. Jackson is said to be leaving pharmacy, but continuing his practice as a dentist.

Mr. Ernest Betche, Assistant Government Botanist, died at his late residence, Sir John Young's-crescent, on June 29, aged 60 years. Mr. Betche was a native of Potsdam, and came to Sydney in 1881 as collector to the late Mr. Charles Moore, then Government Botanist. On the appointment of Mr. J. H. Maiden as Director of the State Gardens, he recommended the appointment of Mr. Betche as his assistant. His scientific work and writings were much appreciated.

South Australia.

(From Our Adelaide Correspondent.)

The Council Election.—One of the peculiarities of the South Australian Pharmaceutical Society is that no one but the Council seems to know when an election is about due. The usual formula is: The returning officer, Mr. Harris, reports having received nominations as follows—as the number nominated was no greater than were required to be elected, he declared, etc., etc. So in its unbroken serenity, like Tennyson's brook, it flows on for ever.

The Trend of Pharmacy.—A cynic says that modern fiction may be summed up as: A man and a woman, a man and two women, a woman and two men—so the theme of the journals of the pharmacist, no longer merely pharmaceutical, is the chemist and early closing, the chemist and earlier closing, the P.D.L., National health assurance and the cult of the adherents of the genial theory that there is no wrong road to progress.

Earlier Closing.—We have passed through the excitement of the recent alleged blackmail case, and now find ourselves in altogether a new position. Thanks to the action of the Retail Chemists Defence Association, we are no longer an exempt body, but are included in the trades controlled by the Early Closing Act officials. Time was when the chemist, at his meetings, used to spread himself and declare that we are not like other men are—even the grocer—but now we are, and had a palpable reminder that we have all passed *sub jugum* on the first Saturday after the first of July by an inspector going the rounds on a motor bike to see that we all toed the mark, or, as he very significantly put it, "taking care of us." This was brought about by bad leadership on both sides; the city men should have recognised that it is written large on the social life of Australia that Saturday afternoons shall be for sport, etc., and that earlier closing has come to stay. As diplomats, neither side has many points to claim. That a body of men knowing that public opinion is in favour of shorter hours, should be unable to do voluntarily what they know they could, and would be compelled to do if brought under the Act, and at a cost of prestige, does not redound to their common sense. The leaders of the movement might well have gloved the "mailed fist" and called a conference. "Oh, for the glorious privilege of being independent," sang Burns. Australia is fast developing into a state of bureaucracy; an inspector with a pencil and a note-book

is almost as familiar as the commercial traveller, and now we can expect another.

Organisation Work.—In South Australia we are at present well catered for in societies. First, there is the Pharmaceutical Society, which concerns itself only with the ethical side of the trade, and apparently exists for this alone, oblivious of the fact that this is fast receding, and the commercial side looming larger and demanding recognition. Then we have the Retail Chemists' Defence Association, which set out to do much, but which has yet to make good. Also, there is the P.D.L., getting its foot in and asking us to insure against certain possible contingencies, which don't often happen, but are very disconcerting if they do. Soon it is to be hoped the seeds sown many years ago will take root, and that the Pharmaceutical Society will broaden its view, and carry out all these things. This will add to its prestige, and put it on a different basis to the one it now rests upon.

Tasmania.

Pharmacy Board of Tasmania.

The regular meeting of the Board was held at the office, Collins-street, Hobart, at 10.30 a.m. on the 19th June.

Present: Messrs. J. T. Weaver (in the chair), W. B. Drake, T. James, M. Rushton, H. Sidwell, and H. T. Gould.

Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed as correct.

The President reported interview with the Attorney-General on the various points referred to him, and that he had promised to bring in a short Bill to allow of the analyst's certificate being admitted as evidence in future prosecutions.

Re Ball of King Island.—He recommended that Mr. Ball get a certificate from the Police Magistrate in Launceston on the recommendation of some of the wholesale merchants with whom he dealt. He also promised to support the Board in any actions it might take in regard to infringements of the Pharmacy Act or the Poisons Act.

Resolved that Mr. Ball be advised accordingly.

Mr. Gould then moved the motion standing in his name—that in all future prosecutions under the Pharmacy or Poisons Act the Board should be represented by counsel. Mr. James seconded, and it was carried.

Mr. Gould further moved that Mr. M. J. Clark of Launceston be appointed standing Counsel for the Pharmacy Board for the northern portion of the State, subject to his acceptance. Mr. Drake seconded, and it was carried.

Mr. L. J. Abra of Launceston forwarded Junior Public Certificate in the name of Robert Stuart Stephenson, showing that he had passed in the second class, and in all the necessary subjects, and asked if it would be accepted in lieu of the Preliminary Examination. The Board decided to accept same.

Examinations.—The President, as Chairman of the Board of Examiners, submitted the Examiner's report on the June Examination, which showed two Preliminary candidates had entered, one of whom failed and the other had passed in all subjects except arithmetic, and that he was eligible to take that as a separate subject at a subsequent examination.

For the Intermediate, one candidate, Mr. C. A. Clayton, entered, and was successful.

Two candidates enterd for the final, Miss L. C. Jolliffe and Mr. W. G. Allen, both of whom were successful in satisfying the Examiners.

The Board adopted the report.

The Registrar of the Western Australian Board wrote asking for copies of the Pharmacy and Poisons Acts, and the Registrar was instructed to send these on.

It was resolved that the Attorney-General should be asked to amend the Pharmacy Act to allow of the Board appointing members to fill casual vacancies at the same time as he was amending it in the direction of accepting the analyst's report.

New Regulations.—The Hon. the Chief Secretary wrote returning the regulations submitted for the approval of the Governor, as in two instances they required slight amendment. These were adopted by the Board, and the Registrar was instructed to return them for the purpose of being approved and gazetted.

The Registrar tabled photographs of the members of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria for 1913, and was instructed to acknowledge receipt of same with thanks.

Mr. Drake gave notice of a motion that at the next meeting he would move that the further consideration of the revision of the poisons schedule should be proceeded with.

Accounts amounting to £15 1s. 6d. were passed for payment, and the meeting closed.

Pharmaceutical Society of Tasmania.

The regular meeting of the Council was held at the office, Collins-street, Hobart, at 7.30 p.m. on the 10th June.

Present: Messrs. J. A. Crisp, President, S. B. Brownell, and W. G. Burton. Mr. James sent an apology.

Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed as correct.

The President reported that he had waited on Mr. Gould to try and induce him to withdraw his resignation as a member of the Council, but without success. Mr. Burton moved, and Mr. Brownell seconded, that Mr. Gould's resignation be accepted with regret, and that a record be placed on the minutes of the Council's high appreciation of his long and valuable services to the Society and the profession.

Mr. Crisp moved, and Mr. Brownell seconded, that Mr. Harry Sidwell be appointed to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Gould's resignation.

Attention was drawn to the fact that the report of the conference with the B.M.A. appeared in the C. and D. of the 1st April, although the President's report was not presented to the Council until the 8th idem. Secretary was instructed to ask the editor from whom the published report emanated, and inform him that the Council strongly resented the publication of its reports before they had been received and dealt with by the Council.

P.D.L.

VICTORIA.

The directors met on July 16th at 11 a.m.

Present:—Mr. F. Buckhurst, in the chair, and Messrs. Cornell (Ballarat), Francis, Gulliver, Mewkill (St. Arnaud), Peters (Bendigo), Rankin, and Towl.

Correspondence.—A member wrote, asking for legal advice in connection with the purchase of a cash register. The matter was referred to the solicitor for his opinion, which was received and forwarded to the member making the inquiry.

Dr. R. H. Fetherston, acknowledging receipt of memorandum *re* Army dispensers, and stating that the title of Sergeant Compounder was a wrong one.

Credit notes for general insurances effected were received on account of Messrs. Power, Whitehouse, Gough, Blau and Sons, Wilmot, H. Francis and Co., and Cathcart.

Mr. T. H. Mann, Warracknabeal, wrote, stating that he was placing three risks through the company, and that others would follow when they became due.

Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland wrote, asking if in connection with proposed National Insurance legislation payment should be on a "tariff" or a "per capita" basis. Resolved that a reply be sent that the directors favoured a tariff scale, based on a minimum of 20 per cent. profit on cost.

South Australian Branch, in reference to various matters, and stating that the chairman (Mr. Porter) expected to visit Melbourne in August, and would confer with the directors.

A large amount of general correspondence, inwards and outwards, was read and dealt with.

Election of New Members.—The following new members (Nos. 321 to 335) were balloted for and elected:—

New South Wales—
Sloper, F. E., Sydney.
Inglis, D. J., Mosman.
Gray, E. P. J., Bondi.
Webster, C. F., Burwood.
Burgess, R. E. B., Mosman.
Dash, V. C., Randwick.
Williams, T., Newtown.
Ayres, E. A., Carlton.
Newman, A. H., Glebe.
Nicholas, E. E., Forest Lodge.
Lee, T. A., Dulwich Hill.
Ward, G. A., Waverley.
Martin, R. A. S., Paddington.
Schofield, E. C., Woollahra.

Victoria—
Merfield, P. W., Kew.

Constitution of Federal Board.—A draft of the proposed Constitution of the Federal Board was read and discussed, and ordered to be typewritten and forwarded to the various branches for consideration.

New South Wales Branch.—The chairman reported that he had at the request of the N.S.W. Board again visited Sydney at the end of June to discuss various details as to the working of the local branch. He was pleased to say that as the result of his visit all points at issue were satisfactorily arranged, and that there was every prospect of a strong branch being formed in New South Wales, with full local powers. The secretary read the letter, which had been forwarded to Mr. Mears, setting out the conditions referred to by the chairman. It was resolved that the arrangement be ratified by the Board. The chairman said that the following circular had been issued to every pharmacist in New South Wales.—

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF N.S.W.
7 Richmond Terrace, Domain,
Sydney, 18th June, 1913.

Re Pharmaceutical Defence Limited.

Dear Sir,—Referring to the circular dated 27th May and signed by me as President of the Pharmaceutical Society of N.S.W., I have pleasure in stating that at a very friendly conference between the Council of your Society and the N.S.W. directors of P.D.L. (Mr. Sydney Mears, chairman), your council was assured by Mr. Mears and his co-directors that even after the 30th September, 1913, the P.D.L. will receive the 15 per cent. rebate, as they state, and that my statement to the contrary was absolutely incorrect.

Your council has authorised me to withdraw that statement, and make this explanation, so as to remove any wrong impression that may have been caused by such statement and other paragraphs read in conjunction with it, and I now take the opportunity of doing so.—I remain, yours faithfully and sincerely,

THOS. M. SNELSON, President.

Geelong Dispensary.—It was reported that after lengthy negotiations and several meetings between the Geelong grocers and pharmacists, that the local dispensary committee had refused to meet representatives of the two bodies in conference. The chairman said that he and the secretary and Mr. Geo. Jones, Secretary of the Victorian Storekeepers and Traders' Association, were in readiness to go to Geelong to attend the conference, and he regretted that the dispensary had not seen its way to meet them in friendly discussion. Possibly after the general meeting of the Dispensaries' Conference in August an interview might be arranged. He desired to thank the Geelong chemists for the interest they had taken in the matter.

Proposed Sectional Committee Chamber of Commerce.—Consideration was given to the question of forming a pharmaceutical and drug section of the Chamber of Commerce. The secretary said he had seen Mr. Norton Grimwade, the president of the Chamber, and had discussed the matter with him. Five members were necessary before a section could be formed. Messrs. Buckhurst, Gulliver, Cornell and Towl said they would join. Mr. Gulliver said the suggestion was a good one, and would lead to good results, and it was resolved that on the required number of members being obtained application be made for the appointment of a sectional committee. Mr. Rankin moved, Mr. Towl seconded, that the president of the P.D.L., for the time being, be elected a member of the Chamber. Carried.

General Business.—The chairman said that Messrs. Mears and Mallam (N.S.W.) and W. H. Porter (S.A.) were likely to be visiting Melbourne next month, and that it would be a good opportunity to meet and discuss matters of mutual interest. This view was endorsed by other members of the Board, and the secretary was instructed to arrange a meeting in due course. The Hon. Treasurer (Mr. Francis) presented the financial statement, showing credit balance of £38 7s. 3d. in the general fund and £330 3s. 9d. in the reserve fund. The meeting then adjourned.

South Australia.

A meeting of the Advisory Board was held on June 19.

Present: Messrs. Porter (Chairman), Fox, Strempel, and Gryst. Apology from Mr. Cowling.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Mr. Butchers (22/5/'13) wrote, asking if he might be informed as to what Mr. Porter's out of pocket legal expenses were. It seemed a case in which P.D.L. might come in. Would the Committee make a recommendation?

The Committee greatly appreciated the tenor of this letter, and instructed the Secretary to convey its thanks.

(26/5/'13), explaining the friendly attitude of Pharmaceutical Defence Limited and the C.D.A. towards each other as regards reports of matters interesting to pharmacy, also forwarding draft of notes which, after perusal, was to be forwarded to Western Australia, in which State a branch of P.D.L. was being considered.

(5/6/'13), suggesting that Advisory Committees could get into touch with Members of Parliament *re* National Insurance, Friendly Societies' Dispensaries, co-operate with the Pharmaceutical Society in conferring with Medical Societies, Health Officers, etc., push on general insurance with members, stock, fittings, furniture, etc., the commission on which would go to P.D.L. reserve fund. Mr. Butchers also forwarded a memorandum of the points to be presented at a deputation to the Minister of Defence.

(5/6/'13), forwarding cheque, covering reporting expenses in Mr. Porter's case.

To be acknowledged with thanks. The Committee supported the draft argument to be used at the deputation.

The matter of appointing a Solicitor was held over, also that of commission and working expenses. Concerning these, the Chairman proposed waiting until his proposed visit to Melbourne.

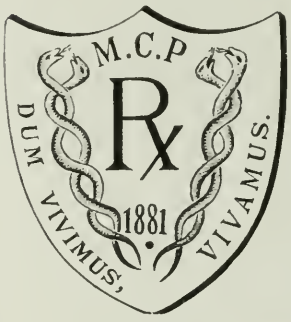
New South Wales.

The directors have held several meetings during the month, and have now completed their arrangements for carrying on the branch. The President (Mr. Sydney Mears) paid a visit to Parramatta early in July, and was successful in inducing all the local pharmacists to become members.

College Notes.

A Short History of the College of Pharmacy.

By T. E. Turner.)



The College Badge.

The year 1885 showed the College in full swing, Mr. John Kruse being still the lecturer in all subjects. To me this year stands out as an exceptionally vivid memory. I had just left Port Fairy (Belfast it then was), after serving my apprenticeship with the late Mr. Ernest Wade, and then, after putting in a few weeks with the late Mr. Cockram, of South Yarra (the business known as Chas. Ogg, and now conducted by Mr. A. L. Ogg), I went as assistant to the late Mr. Thos. Huntsman, of Nicholson-street, Fitzroy. From the quiet country seaside place to the metropolis was a great change, and then the entering of the College with all my glowing aspirations and ambitions, with the always present balancing trepidations. I well remember the first lecture day. Mr. Kruse put us a few questions, to see what general knowledge we had. Among others, was the composition of the air. In my anxiety I set down the volume as 15th nitrogen, 45th oxygen; well perhaps some of the other answers were worse. Acting on the advice of Mr. Kruse, I attended the College for two years, taking chemistry the first year. What an eminently practical, skilled chemist Mr. Kruse was. Almost the first thing we did was to each throw a silver coin into the dish to make silver nitrate; then followed the manufacture of phosphoric and hydrocyanic acids. The former was made by the direct oxidation of phosphorus by nitric acid, and while the latter was making we had a lecturette on "soubresauts," or bumpings, to which this distillation is peculiarly liable. Pieces of the stems of clay pipes were used in this instance. Spts. Aeth. Nit. was another preparation manufactured, and sure enough we got this as a question at the end of the year. We had one expert in blowing into the gas supply in the laboratory, to the subsequent discomfiture of the students. This was Arthur Edwards, the athlete of the class, and then a member of the Melbourne football team. Another accomplishment he had was mixing the ferrous and ferric solutions and the ferrocyanide and ferricyanide solutions in the reagent bottles. Paul Ward Farmer (now Dr.) one day put a fair-sized piece of potassium in the sink without wiping the naphtha off, and an explosion resulted. Jim Breton got some of the splash on his face, and we had to oil him. A joke against Joe Hill was that he fell off the 'bus one wet morning in Elizabeth-street, and Elizabeth-street was something to remember for mud in those days. The joke was all the better, as the little boxer hats

worn then were known as "fall off the 'bus," and Joe had a very up-to-date one on, and it suffered from the mud. I don't remember any winding-up function, but a photograph of the college, with most of the students attending, was taken, and perhaps I shall be able to persuade our editor to reproduce it in this column later on. The late Mr. Wm. Johnson, then Victorian Government Analyst, was the examiner in chemistry at the end of the year, and he set us a fairly difficult paper, including questions on the manufacture of ether, chloroform, spts. amm. arom., and spts. aeth. nit. In the practical, besides six salts (one acid, one base), we had to do a little *viva voce*. I was given a sample of alcohol, and asked to determine its s.g., and from the tables supplied say what the percentage of real ethyl hydroxide was, and also state the proof strength. A point to bear in mind was that the salts had to be done without the help of analytical tables.

Paul Ward Farmer was the gold medallist, and richly deserved the honour. The win was undoubtedly the most popular that could have occurred. His determination and the special circumstances under which he worked both enlisted the sympathies of his fellow students. As showing the energy with which he worked, it needs only to be stated that he gave notice of his intention, if successful in the Intermediate, to go on with the Final. The examiners announced his success in the former, and he passed the latter with credit.

Looking at the roll, there remain actively engaged in pharmacy:—Arthur Edwards, Junction Pharmacy, Windsor; C. A. Graves, Raymond-street, Sale; S. Pincus, Brunswick-street, Fitzroy; E. L. Fisher, 47 Elizabeth-street, Melbourne; and A. D. Gamson, Ararat. Of the others, Geo. Morrison is at Balmattum, Vic., and G. B. Turner is practising dentistly at Richmond.

I might mention here that the excellent photo. of the college, reproduced last month, was taken by Mr. J. W. Nobbs, one of last year's students.

I have received the following letter from an 1883 student, which might not inappropriately be included here:—

Dear Mr. Turner,—

Referring to your interesting historical article on the College of Pharmacy, you mention that there is no name as head of the class for 1883, and that you have no personal knowledge of that year.

If of any interest, I, as a student of that year, can give a little information.

No prizes were given in that year and no student was recognised as "Head." Mr. John Kruse was director and lecturer, and among the students were Messrs. A. S. Lock, C. E. Keays, J. T. Weaver, F. Morris, Evans, R. McMullen, Ross, F. McKnight, S. Carlyle, R. R. McKean, W. P. Willis, J. E. Booth, J. H. Nieman, F. A. Groening, Geo. S. Ellis, and Joseph J. Barnes.

The characteristics and doings of these "boys of the old brigade" at lectures and after, 30 years ago, would fill many columns of "The Journal," but I am sure I can voice our united appreciation of the ability and self-sacrificing labours of the late Mr. John Kruse, whose enthusiasm and geniality of manner made a distinct impression on many of us. How we behaved—my modesty will not allow me to enlarge much upon—but my memory goes back to the good old student days of 1883 spent in such congenial company, and in spite of the poor accommodation and lack of apparatus of those days, we had a warm place in our hearts for the gifted and honoured gentleman who was our director, and through whose masterly instruction many of us were fortunate enough to pass our "Intermediate" at the end of the year. I may mention that it was during a lecture one morning that Mr. Kruse received the welcome news that his gifted son, Johann Kruse, the great violinist, had been appointed "concert meister" at the German Court, and the students very cordially congratulated Mr. Kruse on his son's great success.

Much more could be written of the doings of the 1883 students, but the foregoing will no doubt be sufficient to show the later generation of students that all the good days do not belong to the present.

You will see from the above that Mr. Kruse was in charge earlier than 1884, but whether before 1883 I cannot say.—Yours faithfully,

J. E. BOOTH.

329 Smith-street, Fitzroy, 15/7/13.

(To be continued.)

Correspondence.

To the Editor 'Australasian Journal of Pharmacy."

Sir,—The reply by Mr. Leete to my letter requires a more extended explanation from him than he has given, in order that country chemists will not take up Sigma under a misapprehension of the intentions of this company.

He writes:—"Sigma would be sold instead of, and not in addition to, by the grocers."

If it is suggested that the grocer will advise a customer to take Sigma preparations, because they would suit the ailment for which another article was asked for, then Mr. Leete openly and willingly admits the ability of this untrained salesman to advise on matters of Materia Medica without possessing any training in this direction. If the demand for Sigma is to be created by advertising in the same manner that other proprietary articles obtain business, then the capital of £2000 is insufficient, and Mr. Leete and the directorate are very inexperienced if they are unaware of this fact.

If the demand for Sigma is to be created by chemists recommending the brand to their customers, then we are giving our customers to the outsider instead of holding them to the chemist's shop for their drug purchases.

Why not close down the Pharmacy College and Society before our leading pharmacists, by joining the army of quacks, bring discredit on us. We have some justification for selling an article of medicine, the contents of which is understood by

ourselves—but for the pharmacists to place a range of packed medicines in the hands of grocers, drapers, inexperienced in medical drugs, is the limit of absurdity and humbug.

Yours co-operatively,

W. D. WILLIAMS.

Drug Cultivation in Australia.

To the Editor "Australasian Journal of Pharmacy."

Sir,—I am in receipt of your letter of the 18th April, and am interested to hear that Mr. Bailey is to give evidence before the British Royal Dominions Commission on the question of Drug Cultivation in Australia.

I hope he will be able to supplement the evidence which was given by us before the Commission when in London, and that you will be able to obtain the practical support of the Government for the necessary experimenting, in order that those drugs which can be produced in Australia, at any rate for home consumption, may be successfully cultivated there.

If I may venture to make a suggestion, and you receive this letter in time, I would say that the two most important points to which the attention of the Commission requires to be drawn, are—

(1) That the successful cultivation of drugs of satisfactory quality can only be carried out after a considerable number of initial experiments have been made in order to ensure that the correct variety and the proper conditions of soil and methods of collection are attained.

The services of expert agriculturists and horticulturists are required for these purposes, and, in addition, botanical, chemical, and pharmaceutical interests should be represented; otherwise, although a sufficient yield of the drug may be obtained, the quality will not be such as to recommend it for medicinal purposes.

It is, therefore, almost hopeless to expect the experiments to be undertaken by individual enterprise unless it is supported by Government funds and Government supervision in the initial stages.

(2) The question of cheap labour, or rather surplus labour, which can be cheaply obtained, is necessary for cultivation on a large scale. It is in dealing with cheap drugs, of course, that I refer, and to the unskilled labour.

On both these points I think sufficient evidence of the possibilities may be brought by reference to what has been done in the United States of America, where a special department has been established for the purpose of advising and assisting in the cultivation of drugs throughout that country. The work done by this department in the United States of America was referred to by us before the Commission when sitting in London, and I understand instructions were given by the Chairman to the Secretary to get particulars of the bulletins, which they issue from time to time, and such further details as he could as to what was being done there.

Yours truly,

J. HERBERT E. EVANS.

Liverpool,
29th May, 1913.

Pure Food & Drugs.

Commerce Act Orders.
Carlsbad Powders.

The Department of Trade and Customs has issued the following order, dated June 18, 1913:—

1. Synthetic Mixtures, called after geographical names, such as Carlsbad, Vichy, etc., which approximate in their constituents to the original salts from these springs, although they do not come from such, must have such names qualified by the word "Imitation."

2. Where there is not sufficient similarity between the preparations and the salts from the springs, the use of the geographical names is not to be permitted.

New Commerce Act Regulations.
Drugs and Medicines.

New regulations under the Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act 1905 were recently approved by the Governor-General, and were brought into operation forthwith on the ground of urgency.

The following are those which deal more particularly with pharmacists and those interested in the manufacture and sale of proprietary medicines.

Amongst the articles to which a trade description must be applied are:—

(*a*) Articles used for food or drink by man, or used in the manufacture or preparation of articles used for food or drink by man;

(*b*) Medicines or medicinal preparations for internal or external use.

In the case of the following goods, the trade description shall, in addition, comply with the following provisions:—

(*a*) In the case of *articles used as food or drink by man*, or used in the preparation of articles used as food or drink by man, and containing any deleterious or preservative substance, the trade description shall include a statement setting forth that the articles contain the deleterious or preservative substance, and in the case of preservative substances, the amount thereof per pint or pound weight of the goods.

(*b*) In the case of *foods for infants*, if the food is not suitable for general use for infants under the age of six months, the trade description shall include, in legible characters and conspicuously displayed, the following words, namely, "not suitable for infants under the age of six months." (This regulation does not come into operation until 1st October, 1913).

(*c*) In the case of *medicines and medicinal preparations* prepared ready for internal use, and containing more than 17.5 per cent. by volume of proof spirit (equivalent to 10 per cent. by volume of ethyl alcohol) the trade description shall include a statement setting out the percentage, by volume, of proof spirit contained in the goods.

(*d*) In the case of *medicines and medicinal preparations for internal or external use*, if the goods contain any of the following drugs or poisonous chemical derivatives thereof, *viz.*:—

Free iodine or chemical compounds containing iodine or bromide excepting iodoform and its substitutes; or

Poisonous compounds of antimony, arsenic, barium, bismuth, copper, lead, and mercury; or

Yellow phosphorus, hydrocyanic acid, and poisonous cyanides; or

Chloral, dormiol, isopral, acetone-chloroform (chloretone), dionin, heroin, paraldehyde, sulphonal, trional, tetronal, veronal, proponal, bromural, neuronal, or any other natural or synthetic hypnotic substance; or

Anilides, phenetidines, or pyrazolones, such as acetanilide, phenacetin, phenazone, or other derivatives of anilines, aminophenols, or quinolines, or other preparations possessing analgesic or antipyretic properties; or

Any drugs of vegetable origin being or containing poisonous alkaloids, poisonous glucosides, or other poisonous principles; or

Adrenaline, or its substitutes; chloroform, nitro-glycerin; or

Carbolic acid, cresols, guaiacol, creosol, naphthols, resorcin, hydroquinone, pyrogallic acid; or

Cantharides, cotton root, ergot, oil of pennyroyal, oil of rue, oil of savin, oil of tansy, oil of parsley, or any emmenagogue or reputed abortifacient substance; or

Para-phenylenediamine, or similar irritant organic bases;

the trade description shall include an explicit statement to such effect, setting out, in regard to any substance specifically named in this list, such specified name of the substance, or in the case of any substance included but not specifically named in this list, the name most commonly applied to the substance in the English language in the Pharmacopœias of Great Britain and the United States of America, or in the British Pharmaceutical Codex, or other recognised authority, and also the quantity or proportion of the drug present in the goods.

(*e*) In the case of *liniments or veterinary medicines*, if the goods contain methylated spirits the trade description shall include a statement setting out in clear and prominent characters, and in the following form, the percentage of such substance contained in the goods, *viz.*, "This preparation contains† per cent. of alcohol by volume in the form of methylated spirit."‡

(*f*) In the case of cultures and preparations of bacteria, yeasts, and similar micro-organisms, intended for medicinal, prophylactic, or therapeutic purposes, or for use as or in the preparation of articles of food or drink for man, the trade description shall include a statement as to the freedom of the culture or preparation from extraneous disease-producing micro-organisms, and also a statement as to the date up to which the culture or preparation will remain active.

† Quantity to be stated.

‡ Under the provisions of the *Spirits Act* 1906, it is an offence to sell or have in one's possession any medicines containing methylated spirits other than liniments and veterinary medicines.

Analysts and Analyses.

The Minister may appoint any qualified person to be an analyst for the purpose of the Act and these Regulations.

All Customs Analysts shall without further appointment be analysts for the purposes of the Act and these Regulations.

Every certificate of the result of an analysis shall be *prima facie* evidence of the facts therein stated.

A copy of a certificate of analysis relating to any goods for export of the kinds enumerated in Part III. of these Regulations may be supplied by the Collector of Customs to the manufacturer or exporter of the goods upon payment of One shilling.

Standards.

The importation of the following goods, which do not comply with the standards set out hereafter, is prohibited unless the trade description applied to the goods includes in bold and legible characters the matters and the extent to which the goods do not comply with the standards applicable thereto.

"*Concentrated Milk*": concentrated milk shall be pasteurised milk which is concentrated by any process whatever, and not subsequently sterilised; it shall contain not less than 9 per cent. of butter fat and 24 per cent. of milk solids not fat, and no foreign substance other than 0.5 per cent. of boric acid.

"*Condensed Milk*": condensed milk shall be milk which is condensed or concentrated by any process whatever, with or without the addition of cane sugar; when containing such sugar, it shall also contain not less than 9 per cent. of butter fat, and 22 per cent. of milk solids not fat, or, when not containing such sugar, shall contain not less than 8 per cent. of butter fat and 20 per cent. of milk solids not fat.

"Dried Milk": dried milk shall be milk from which the water has been removed by a process of heating, without the addition of any extraneous matter, and which, when dissolved in or treated with water, according to any directions supplied by the maker or endor thereof, produces milk as defined in this Schedule.

"*Meat Extract*" or "*Meat Essence*": meat extract or meat essence shall be the extract or essence of meat which has been obtained from the flesh of cattle or sheep, by extraction, expression or concentration; it shall contain the

protein of flesh but no extract of yeast or other foreign substance except salt and condiments.

The regulations will probably be revised and modified as the result of the decisions arrived at at the recent Interstate Conference on Uniform Standards for Foods and Drugs.

Publications.

Schimmel and Co.'s Semi-Annual Report.

The latest number of this valuable publication, April, 1913, marks another step in the progress of the literary production of the well-known firm of essential oil producers. This small pamphlet of 20 years ago has gradually increased in thickness, but the current number is of augmented dimensions, and includes a big budget of information. The introduction is, as usual, a concise resume of the business tidings of the world and the events of the past six months, and although it deals primarily with the trade in essential oils, yet it is always a useful summary and good reading for any commercial man. The following extracts from the report are of interest:—

Eucalyptol.—The scarcity of eucalyptus oils containing eucalyptol has greatly stimulated the sale of pure eucalyptol. Although we still dispose of very considerable supplies of cheap raw material, the tightening of prices is, of course, only a question of time, and we earnestly advise our regular customers not to forego the opportunity which still exists of covering their requirements cheaply.

Eucalyptus Oil.—The market-position of Globulus oil, an article which is used everywhere in large quantities, has been steadily firm, and as parcels of importance were only rarely offered from Australia at acceptable prices, buyers were compelled to content themselves with the stocks held in Europe. These were very considerable, although they are now beginning to dwindle, and it appears to be quite possible that sooner or later a serious scarcity may make itself felt. As we have already mentioned on a previous occasion, considerable quantities of eucalyptus oil are now used in Australia in the treatment of mineral ores, and this may perhaps be the principal reason why the producers show so much reserve in offering oil for export. A serious advance in the prices of eucalyptus oil is in our opinion only a question of time, and we strongly advise our friends to cover their requirements before we, too, are compelled to raise our quotations. Common Australian eucalyptus oil has not been so much in request, but this description is also firm, and the imports of it are not in proportion to the sales.

The excellent oil of *Eucalyptus maculata* var. *citriodora* still continues to be favoured by many buyers, although its cost is an obstacle to its use on a large scale. We take this opportunity of once more calling attention to this speciality.

Mr. W. J. Brownscombe's Work.—Eucalyptus oil employed for medicinal purposes is tested in the various Australian States by different principles. This fact has led W. J. Brownscombe to advocate a uniform method of testing. Mr. Brownscombe especially criticises the regulations, based upon the British Pharmacopœia, under which oils containing phellandrene are excluded from medicinal use. He supports the proposals made by the Federal and Interstate Conference in June, 1910, which demand that the only test to be applied shall be that for the presence of aldehydic constituents with b.p. below 120 deg., of which only "traces" are to be admissible. This demand he modifies by fixing a definite maximum content (0.5 p.c.) for such aldehydes, because in his view it is impossible to remove them completely by simple rectification, and because they only impart injurious properties to the oils when they are present in considerable proportions (1 to 2 p.c.). Brownscombe is of opinion that the irritant action of eucalyptus oil is specially due to the presence of these lower fatty aldehydes, but not to that of phellandrene, which, on the contrary, he regards as a therapeutically valuable constituent, because, like piperitone, it imparts antiseptic properties to the oil.

Several years ago, when referring to similar pronouncements by Mr. Brownscombe, we pointed out that up to the present it is quite unknown whether the therapeutic value of eucalyptus oil lies in its antiseptic action, and we again wish to lay stress upon this fact.

With the notes on scientific research, the report completes 152 pages full of information, gathered from the whole world, regarding essential oils. The first number of the new series is without doubt one of the most interesting ones ever issued.

Trade Notes.

Mr. A. G. Finlayson, late of Stawell, has opened a new business in Lydiard-street, Ballarat.

Registration of Firms.—D. Atkinson and Son, pharmaceutical chemists, Kerang. Partners—Douglas Atkinson and C. D. Atkinson, both registered pharmacists.

Mr. H. N. Lemmon, who served his apprenticeship with Mr. E. G. Owen, Collins Street, has purchased Mr. R. Harvie's business, at Chapel Street, South Yarra.

Mr. Albert H. Koch, analyst to the Pharmaceutical Society, intimates in this issue that analytical work of any description entrusted to him will receive prompt and careful attention.

Miss Kathleen V. Humphreys, who was registered at the last meeting of the Pharmacy Board, has been appointed dispenser at the recently-opened branch of the Williamstown C.F.S. Dispensary at Newport.

The Apos Drug Co., wholesale druggists, 335 Spencer-street, West Melbourne. Partners—Messrs. E. Norton Grimwade, Harold W. Grimwade, and W. Russell Grimwade, has been registered under the Firms' Act. "Apos" signifies "Australian Pharmacists' Own Specialties."

Mr. S. S. Strutt, J.P., of Powlett-street, East Melbourne, has disposed of his business to Mr. J. W. C. Black, who intends carrying it on as a branch of his Collingwood business. Mr. John Wright is in charge.

Messrs. Rocke, Tompsitt & Co. are placing in the market "Phos," childrens' Tonic, a chemical food agreeably flavoured to serve as a tonic for children. It is intended to widely advertise the line by means of show cards, posters, &c., and is considered that an active demand will set in for the preparation.

Mr. W. B. Bennett, representing E. Merck, Darmstadt, passed through Melbourne during the month on his way to Sydney, where he intends opening a branch on behalf of Messrs. G. A. Bremer and Co., the Australian representatives of Mr. Merck. A Victorian branch of the firm has been established at 380 Flinders-lane.

Footscray U.F.S. Dispensary.—The fifty-eighth half-yearly report of the Footscray U.F.S. Dispensary shows that the receipts amounted to £1867 0s. 7d., including a credit balance from the previous half-year of £643 7s. 1d. The expenditure was £1165 9s. 10d., leaving a credit balance of £701 10s. 9d. The average number of members on the books was 6013, being an increase of 225. The total number of packages sent out was 56,767, giving an average of 9.4 per member.

"The P. & B. Messenger," Messrs. Potter and Birks' breezy publication, always contains a useful amount of readable matter. The July issue comes to hand in an enlarged form—a special double winter number. It contains a well-written notice of the New South Wales P.D.L., and warmly commends the organisation to pharmacists. As a "house" publication "The P. and B. Messenger" is certainly most up-to-date, and its appearance is always looked forward to by Australasian pharmacists.

Messrs. Felton, Grimwade Co. have opened a nice assortment of French cloth brushes by a new maker. They are also showing a good range of assorted styles of sponges in pictorial display boxes fitted with dustless inside gelatine lid. An improved nasal douche with glass cylinders and nose piece has just come to hand; also grey and red felt natural wool lumbago belts, and Aero ventilated woollen chest and lung protectors. In silver mounted sprays and toilet bottle a new shipment has just been opened and is worth inspection.

Sigma Co. Ltd.—The directors have held several meetings during the month, and report increasing sales of the lines at present on the market. Careful consideration is being given to the nature and form of the additional preparations it is intended to issue, and experimental tests are being undertaken with a view of ensuring that only sound and reliable remedies of proved value will be adopted. The question of selling to grocers was discussed, and it was decided to place a full statement of the position in this regard before the shareholders in due course. Mr. E. T. Church has been elected chairman of directors.

Victorian Government Contracts.—The contracts accepted by the Victorian Government for the supply of general stores for the public service for 1913-14 were published in the "Government Gazette" of July 8th. Messrs. Felton, Grimwade and Co. were the successful tenderers for the supply of ammonia (cwt. quantities), and calcium chloride (5 cwt. quantities) For the supply of chemicals, Messrs. Rocke, Tompsitt and Co. and Felton, Grimwade and Co. secured the main orders. The same firms shared with others the principal items in the disinfectant schedule. The agents for Hycol and Pearson's liquid soap were also successful tenderers. In druggists' sundries, drugs, earthenware, etc., Messrs. Rocke, Tompsitt and Co., Wm. Simpson and Co., Denyer Bros., Felton, Grimwade and Co., and Silberberg and Co., were the largest contractors. Messrs. F., G. and Co.'s Fosfa preparation was also included in the tender, and a contract accepted for the supply of same.

Vaccination Shields.—The small pox scare caused a terrific run on vaccination shields, which, for a day or two the wholesale houses were unable to supply. Supplies were quickly exhausted and the wholesalers were thrown on their own resources. Messrs. Duerdin & Sainsbury quickly improvised a neat and effective felt shield with celluloid transparent cover and adhesive fasteness. This was sold under the name of Arnold's Vaccination Shield and met with an immediate demand. Messrs. Felton, Grimwade & Co. were well to the fore with a "Trident" vaccination shield, with wire frame, lined with chamois leather and soft silk ribbon for tying purposes. Large orders were received for this, but the demand altogether exceeded the supply. Messrs. Rocke, Tompsitt & Co. in addition to the usual felt shield, patented a simple adjustible tin shield with ribbon attachment, in which they did a large business. All the employees of the three wholesale houses were vaccinated on July 17th and 18th. Messrs. Felton, Grimwade & Co.'s staff numbering 175 were treated by Dr. McKeddie, and Messrs. Rocke, Tompsitt & Co.'s employees by Dr. J. W. Barrett. One result of the scare was a great demand for Formaline Tablets, Sulphur Torches, Fumigators and Disinfectants, and Antiseptic Soaps.

"Tabloid" Brand Adjustable Head Dressing.—Everyone who has had to apply it, knows the disadvantages of the ordinary roller bandage as a means of fixing dressings on a head wound. It is difficult to put on, and difficult to keep in position. Of special interest and value, therefore, is the "Tabloid" Adjustable Head Dressing, introduced by Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome and Co., which promises to abolish all troubles connected with bandaging the head. It consists of a cap to fit over the head, with a length of bandage attached for fixing the cap. A pad of double cyanide gauze is supplied along with the head dressing. This is applied to the wound (previously washed or otherwise treated), the cap is slipped over the head, the bandage portion passed round the back of the head, across the forehead and back to the starting point—where it is fastened with a safety pin—and the thing is done. The whole operation is exceedingly simple, and the result is excellent. The dressing does not slip or readily become displaced, and it causes the patient little or no inconvenience or discomfort. For first-aid or field use nothing more admirable could be conceived. The "Tabloid" adjustable head dressing, with its accompanying pad of double cyanide gauze and safety pin, is issued in a package small enough to go in the waistcoat pocket, and well maintains the high reputation of "Tabloid"

bandages and dressings for convenience, portability, and practicability.

Messrs. Potter and Birks, Grosvenor-street, Sydney, sole agents for Messrs. Johnson and Johnson, New Brunswick, N.J., have introduced, as an advertising scheme,

The J. and J. Utility Kit.

Contents: Red Cross Absorbent Cotton, Linton Gauze Bandage, Zonas Adhesive Plaster, Johnson's Toilet and Baby Powder, Johnson's Digestive Tablets, Allen's Corn Plasters, Allen's Toothache Plasters, Shaving Cream Soap, Synol Liquid Soap, Mustard Leaf. The kit contains all the necessary articles for First Aid: The hundred-use Adhesive Plaster; the purest Toilet Powder; Johnson's Digestive Tablets for a sudden attack of indigestion; corns and toothache meet their conquerors; Synol, a delightful antiseptic liquid soap, and the old reliable Mustard Plaster. The kit is retailed at the remarkably low price of 1/-. It costs the pharmacist 8d., and therefore yields a profit of 50 per cent. From Messrs. Potter and Birks' standpoint, the goods are sold at a loss, in the expectation that increased business on the lines advertised will more than recompense them for the expenditure. The proposition is a good one, and many pharmacists who commenced by ordering modest twelfths are now selling grosses. The J. and J. Utility Kit is certainly a unique production at the price asked.

Mr. Thomas Tyrer, an English pharmacist, who is with Mr. T. A. C. Sayle, Sandringham, has received an interesting letter from his former employer, a Liverpool chemist. Referring to National Insurance, the writer says that there has been a tremendous rush for medicine by insurance patients. It has meant much extra work. And the fly in the ointment is that it is increased personal work, for, according to the Act, it must be done by the qualified man, or under his immediate supervision. "This is where it interferes with my own work, as it is not profitable enough to engage continuous help. My optical connection has almost disappeared. One of the pet arguments in favour of our taking insurance dispensing was that patients having no doctors' bills to meet would spend money at the chemists for little extras for the sick room, etc. Not much in this shop, I can tell you! It is mostly growls that they do not get enough for their 4d. a week. Have had only one person make a purchase when getting medicine, and then only a bottle of Cologne. I was building up a nice connection with my own preparations, but the sales of these have already begun to drop off, and this is where my profit really lies. I would like to be optimistic, but the altered conditions are very serious—they are bringing a lot of hard work without the brass to balance it. Only half our first quarter's accounts have been paid, and many are finding themselves in a difficulty through the sudden change of a cash into a credit business."

Personal.

Mr. A. W. Madge has been relieving Mr. J. W. Harris, of Beaufort.

Mr. C. J. Bellemey has been assisting Mr. H. W. Wheeler, of Colac.

Mr. J. J. Kissoll is relieving at Mr. N. G. Musther's pharmacy at Williamstown.

Mr. G. S. Corson, who qualified in June, is at present with Mr. J. H. Rountree, Hamilton.

Mr. G. Turvey, late of Deniliquin, is at present on the relieving staff at the Geelong dispensary.

Mr. J. Heming, representing Whitall, Tatum Co., Sydney, was in Melbourne on a visit early in July.

Mr. Salvatore Magro, who recently arrived in Victoria with Maltese qualifications, has returned to Malta.

Mr. Harry Lay, Eaglehawk, paid a visit to Melbourne on July 9, to be present at his brother's wedding.

Mr. H. E. Elphick, Maldon, has been spending a few days in the city. Mr. T. H. Ready acted as *locum*.

Mr. C. H. Peacock, late of Canterbury, has accepted a four weeks' engagement at the Richmond Dispensary.

Mr. J. McBurney, Kilmore, has been seriously ill. During his absence from business Mr. T. H. Ready was relieving.

Mr. G. H. Sobee, Mildura, has been elected a shire councillor. It is always a pleasant duty to congratulate pharmacists taking a part in public life.

Mr. E. Norton Grimwade leaves on a visit to Western Australia on July 22 to attend the annual meeting of the directors and shareholders of Messrs. Felton, Grimwade & Bickford Ltd., Perth.

Mr. T. P. Isaac, late of Messrs. Felton, Grimwade & Co., writes from London that he has had an enjoyable trip home, and is busy making himself acquainted with the conditions of pharmacy in England.

Mr. R. P. Francis, of Messrs. Duerdin & Sainsbury, is, according to recent advices, having an enjoyable time in London. He has paid a visit to Bloomsbury Square, attended some of the London drug sales, and been through several of the leading wholesale establishments. Speaking of retail pharmacy, he says that so far he has seen nothing remarkable, and that Melbourne pharmacies compare more than favourably with those he has seen in and around London.

Mr. W. Clack, who for nine years has been with Mr. A. L. Ogg, South Yarra, has joined the dispensary staff at the Melbourne Hospital.

Mr. Robert S. Anderson, late of "Andersons," Swanston-street, Melbourne, has purchased the old established business of Mr. James Whittle, Ballarat.

Mr. Wm. B. Reid, formerly manager for Mr. C. G. Imes, Dorcas-street, South Melbourne, has purchased the business of Mr. C. F. A. Bendelack, Malvern.

Mr. W. Thursfield, Colac, accompanied by his wife, left on July 9th on a trip to Western Australia. Mr. C. F. A. Bendelack is looking after his business.

Mr. R. Turnbull Sanderson, a British pharmacist, late with Duncan, Flockhart and Co., Edinburgh, has joined the staff of Messrs. R. W. Peddome and Co.

Mr. John A. Kay, late of Traralgon, returned to Melbourne during the month, after a short trip to the old country. Mr. Kay has greatly benefited in health as the result of his holiday.

Mr. Alexander Sayers, charge hand in the drug department of Messrs. Bonner and Henderson, Wellington-street, Ballymena, Ireland, arrived in Melbourne by the R.M.S. "Osterley" during the month. He intends settling in Melbourne.

Mr. David J. B. Tait, pharmacist, Mornington, who has disposed of his business to Mr. J. T. Saunders, has been presented by the residents of the district with souvenirs of his long association with them. The presentations were made by Major C. Campbell, and took the form of a Cutler desk and chair and a set of silver-mounted brushes for Mr. Tait, and a pair of entree dishes for Mrs. Tait.

Mr. J. Crosbie Goold, who died on July 10th at Elsternwick, at the age of 58, was a well known figure in Victorian pharmaceutical circles. He was an assistant to Mr. J. J. Wells, Kyneton, in 1877, and on leaving him he went into business on his own account in the same town. Subsequently he became dispenser at the Equitable Co-operative Store, and when the action taken by the Pharmacy Board put an end to this arrangement he opened a business in Collins street, near the Town Hall. He subsequently disposed of this to Mr. Arthur Edwards. For some time past he has been travelling in the interests of Nestle's Food and Fellows' Syrup, and recently he undertook the canvassing of the medical men in the interests of the A.P.F. under direction of the South Suburban Chemists' Association, with successful results. He was of a quiet and unassuming disposition, and took no part in the pharmaceutical politics, although for many years a member of the Pharmaceutical Society.

Mrs. Walter G. Sproule (nee Miss Jeannette Feilchenfeld), who died at her residence, Kew, on July 6, was apprenticed to Mr. T. B. Abbott, Sale, in October, 1898. She was transferred to Mrs. Bignell, Carlton, in August, 1901, and attended the lectures at the College of Pharmacy in the following year. Mrs. D. G. Bull (nee Miss Eva Stoddart) and Mrs. L. E. Brown (nee Miss Louise Ziebell) were the other lady students of the class. Miss Feilchenfeld passed the Intermediate Examination at the end of the year, and was awarded the bronze medals in Botany and Materia Medica. The calibre of the class in 1902 was very high. Messrs. D. G. Bull, P. G. Towl, R. R. Rich, and S. A. Burrows headed the examination lists, Miss Feilchenfeld being fifth, with an average of 75 per cent. Miss Feilchenfeld passed her Final Examination in June, 1904, and was registered shortly afterwards. A few years later she married Mr. Walter G. Sproule, barrister, who was retained by the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society as standing counsel to defend members in the event of prosecution under the Pure Food Act.

The retirement from active business of Mr. S. S. Strutt, Powlett-st., East Melbourne, deserves more than passing notice. Mr. Strutt's early connection with pharmacy dates back nearly 50 years. A native of Nottinghamshire, he served his apprenticeship to a Yorkshire chemist, and passed the British qualifying examination in 1868. His name still appears on the British Register. He came to Victoria in 1872 in the sailing vessel, the "Carlisle Castle," which occupied three months in completing the voyage from London to Melbourne via the Cape. A fortnight after his arrival he accepted a position with Mr. Fred Hewlett (brother of the late Dr. Hewlett), who was then in business in Powlett-street, East Melbourne. Six months later Mr. Strutt purchased

the business, and when he was married in 1883 he acquired the property also. To have personally carried on a business in the same premises for forty years is a unique experience in itself. During his residence in East Melbourne Mr. Strutt has taken an active part in municipal affairs. He is Returning Officer for the district, a city auditor and a Justice of the Peace, and in the fulfilment of the duties pertaining to these offices he has made a host of friends in public life. Mr. Strutt's official connection with pharmacy dates back many years. He became a member of the Pharmaceutical Society in 1879. For 27 years he was a member of the Pharmacy Board (1886-1913), and occupied the presidential chair in 1902-3. His connection with the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society commenced in 1893, when he was elected after an exciting poll, and he is still a member of that body. At the memorable dinner given to the retiring members of the Board in March last one of the features of the evening was the magnificent reception accorded to Mr. Strutt, a fitting acknowledgment of the many years' valuable service he has rendered to pharmacy. Mr. Strutt intends residing at St. Kilda, and his many friends will join with us in wishing him good health and a long and prosperous retirement.

Mr. G. H. Bartleman, St. George's-road, North Fitzroy, is one of the younger generation of pharmacists who is taking an active interest in pharmaceutical matters. He is a director of the Sigma Co. Ltd., and the principal mover in the formation of a strong metropolitan association. Mr. Bartleman qualified in Great Britain in 1903, and his experience in the old country has impressed on him the value of the P.A.T.A., which he hopes to see re-established in Victoria.

Mr. J. G. Bloore, of Skipton-street, Ballarat, has retired from business. He arrived in Victoria in 1857, and took a position with Mr. Joseph George, of Brunswick. After this he went to Castlemaine, and then to Ballarat, where he has been in business ever since. Mr. Bloore is now in his eighty-second year.

Mr. Sydney Mears and Mr. C. J. Mallam, members of the New South Wales board of directors of the P.D.L., intend visiting Melbourne next month or early in September. Mr. W. H. Porter, chairman of the South Australian branch, will probably be in Melbourne at the same time. The opportunity will be taken to hold a meeting, and draw up the constitution of the Federal Board.

Mr. Francis Forrest, of Messrs. F. Forrest and Co., Bourke-street, Melbourne, died on July 10th, after a fairly long illness. Mr. Forrest had a large circle of friends, who greatly regret his loss. Shortly after this journal was started, Mr. Forrest was induced to further its interests during one of his visits to London. He was very successful, and returned with advertising orders amounting to over £400. He built up a large business in Australia for Messrs. A. F. Pears, and recently Messrs. G. B. Kent and Sons established a brush factory in Melbourne under his direction. He was probably one of the oldest representatives of English drug firms, having arrived in Melbourne as far back as 1874. Mr. Forrest, Mr. Rivers Langton, and Mr. T. Lakeman were contemporary travellers on the road in the seventies. At one time Mr. Forrest did a large business in "Preservitas," and Clarke's Fairy Night Lights was another line for which he established a lucrative connection in Australia. He was associated with the firm of A. and F. Pears since 1874 as Australian representative, and until Mr. A. J. Firkens opened a branch in Sydney for Messrs. Allen and Hanburys, Mr. Forrest controlled that agency in the colonies. The late Mr. Forrest was married twice. His first wife was a Miss McGee, and his second a daughter of the late Sir Phillip Fysh, of Tasmania.

Births & Deaths.

BIRTH.

Wade.—On the 3rd July, at "Lancewood" Private Hospital, Glenferrie-road, Kew, the wife of T. E. Wade, 73 Auburn-road, Auburn—a son.

DEATHS.

Forrest.—On the 10th July, at his residence, Bell Moor, St. Kilda, Francis Herbert Forrest, aged 55 years.

Goold.—On the 10th July, suddenly, at his late residence, "Lucknow," Elizabeth-street, Elsternwick, James Crosbie, the beloved husband of Anna Martha, and loving father of Harry, Ernie, Bertie, Willie, Myra, and Alice, aged 58 years.

Sproule (nee Feilchenfeld).—On the 6th July, at Kew, Jeannette, the beloved wife of Walter St. George Sproule.

Wade.—On the 3rd July, at "Lancewood" Private Hospital, Glenferrie-road, Kew, the infant son of Thomas Ernest and Bessie Kate Wade, 73 Auburn-road, Auburn.

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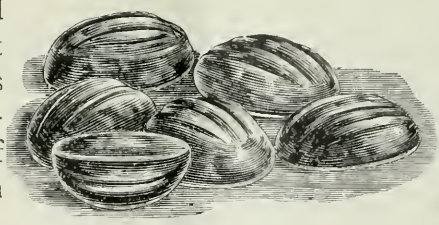

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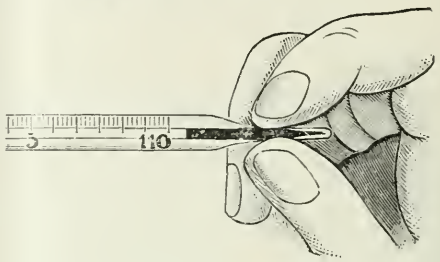

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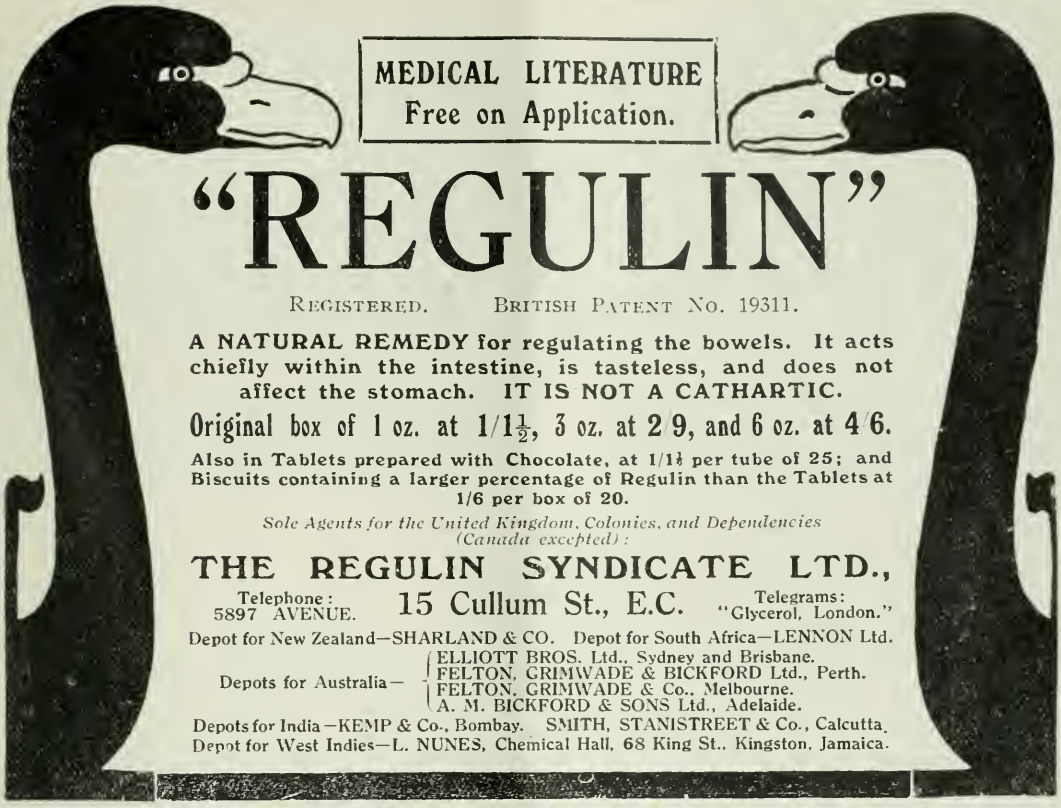

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MEDICAL ACT 1890, PART III.
THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION

AS required by Section 88, Sub-section 4 of the "Medical Act 1890," Part III., is held at the COLLEGE OF PHARMACY, Swanston Street, Melbourne, in MARCH, JUNE, SEPTEMBER, DECEMBER.

Next Examination: MONDAY and TUESDAY, 1st and 2nd SEPT., 1913.

The following are the compulsory subjects :—

LATIN.—Grammar; translation of simple sentences from English into Latin, translation into English of two paragraphs from Cæsar—De Bello Gallico, Book I., or two from Virgil—Æneid, Book I. *In each examination paper two passages from both of the authors will be given, but a candidate will be required to translate only two passages from Cæsar or two from Virgil.*

ENGLISH.—Grammar and composition. The University Text Book in English.

The Text Book for September and December, 1913, and March and June, 1913, will be—
A School Treasury of English Literature (*Murdoch*), Section IV. The portions to be memorised are—Blow, Blow, Thou Winter Wind (*Shakespeare*); L'Allegro (*Milton*); Sonnet on his Blindness (*Milton*); Ode to a Nightingale (*Keats*); Australian Federation (*Gay*).

ARITHMETIC.—First four rules simple and compound vulgar and decimal fractions and simple and compound proportion. Thorough knowledge of the British and metrical system of weights and measures.

GEOMETRY.—The first book of Euclid.

ALGEBRA.—So far as simple equations.

The following text-books are recommended by the Examiner :—

LATIN.—For Grammar and Composition :—
Allen's Elementary Latin Grammar.
Allen's First Latin Exercise Book.
These two books contain everything necessary for a sound and satisfactory preparation.

ARITHMETIC.—Any good school treatise.

ENGLISH.—Accidence and Analysis. Nesfield's Outline of English Grammar, omitting Part V.

ALGEBRA.—Any good school treatise. C. Smith's Elementary Algebra may be mentioned as a work covering all requirements.

EUCLID.—Any good school treatise on Euclid, Book I. The works by Hall and Steven, Smith and Bryant, Layng, or R. Deakin (Tutorial Series), may be mentioned as thoroughly satisfactory manuals.

The questions given at the examinations are published in the "Australasian Journal of Pharmacy" for March, June, September and December in each year. 1/- a copy.

Candidates must give written notice of their intention to present themselves, together with the Fee of One Guinea, TEN DAYS prior to the date fixed for the examination.

INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION.

MATERIA MEDICA, BOTANY, CHEMISTRY, AND PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY FOR THE CERTIFICATE OF THE COLLEGE OF PHARMACY, MELBOURNE.

THE EXAMINATION of Students who have attended the Lectures in the above subjects is held half-yearly in June and December. The next examination will be held at the COLLEGE OF PHARMACY on 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th and 8th DEC., 1913. The Examination Fee of Two Guineas must be paid ten days before that date.

THE FINAL EXAMINATION.

IN accordance with the Provisions of Clause 40 of the Regulations of "The Medical Act 1900," Part III., an EXAMINATION IN PRACTICAL PHARMACY before the Board will be held at the College of Pharmacy on the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th SEPT., 1913, at 10 o'clock a.m.

Candidates must give to the Registrar written notice of their intention to present themselves, together with their Indentures of Apprenticeship, the Certificates required by Section 88, Subdivision 4, of "The Medical Act 1890," Part III. and the Fee of Three Guineas, ten days prior to the day of examination.

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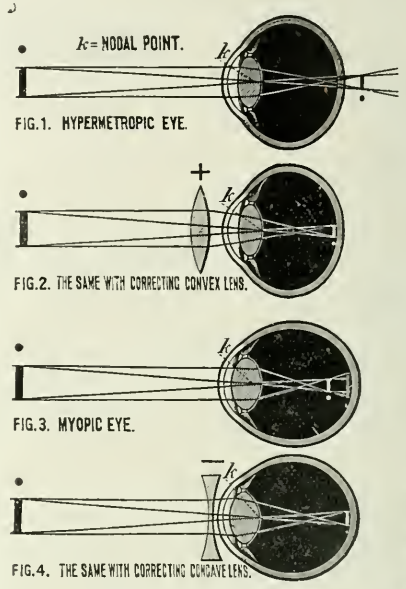

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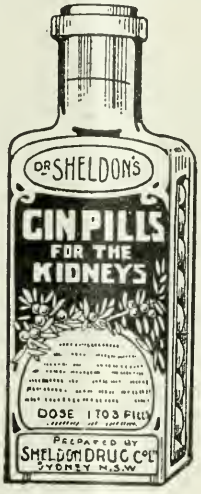

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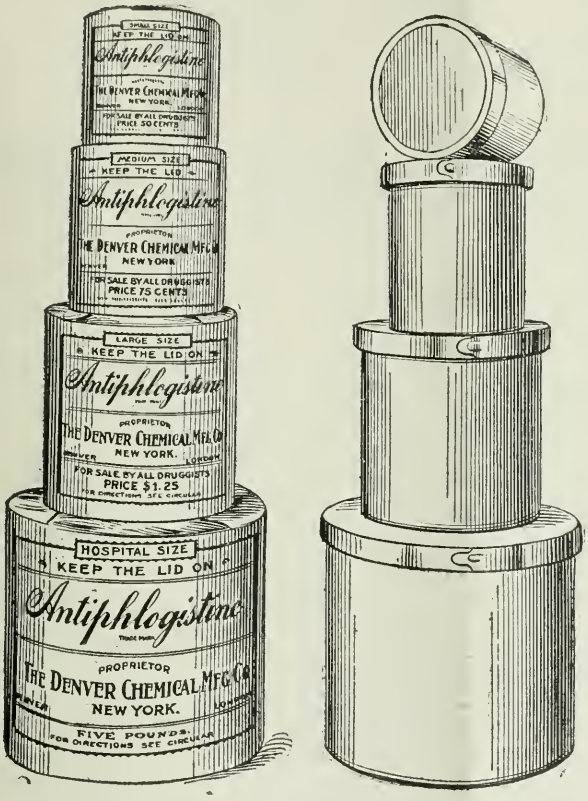

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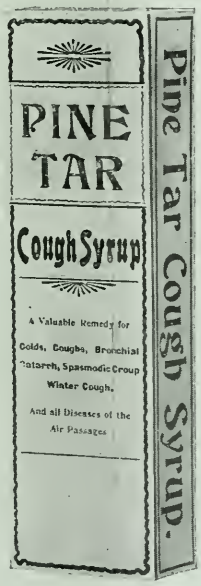
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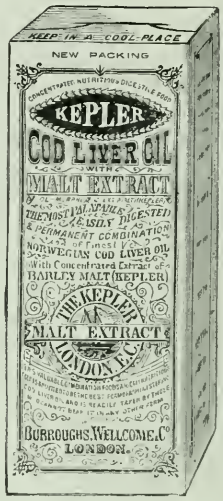

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